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PROFITABLE METHODS OF CLEAN CLEARING.

By W. Towgood.

IT has been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that clean clearing is imperative on a rubber estate if diseases are to be kept in check. The following extracts bearing on the subject are from an article by the writer, published in the Straits and Federated Malay States *Agricultural Bulletin*, No. 3, Vol. VIII, March, 1909, on *Termes gestroi* in peaty land:

"In opening new clearings it is false economy to cut down expenditure on clearing and it will obviously be far cheaper to eradicate *Termes gestroi* in clearings before they are planted than afterwards, to say nothing of the saving in the cost of other works and the satisfaction of knowing that the only two pests which we have to fear have been eradicated.

"Further advantages of more thorough clearing would be less likelihood of vacancies caused by *Fomes semitostus* and a saving in the cost of weeding, in fact of every other work carried on in the clearing, together with easier and consequently more efficient supervision.

"Where there is a sale for timber or charcoal, sound Meranti trees may be sawn up with advantage and Kumpas can be converted into first class charcoal."

At the time the above was published the writer was experimenting on splitting up Kumpas trees into shingles for roofing. The first building on which the shingles were used was built ten years ago. The shingles were not treated with any preservative, and for some time the roof was overhung by trees and covered with moss. The trees have since been cut back and the moss removed. Shortly after erecting this small building, now being used as an office, three bungalows and four large sets of cooly lines were covered with Kumpas shingles all untreated with the exception of one bungalow. The roofs of all these buildings remain in good order, and had the shingles been treated with a good wood preservative and given a coating of the same, say once every two years, there is very little doubt that they would last indefinitely.

Kumpas trees are found in great abundance in peaty land, and the danger of leaving this timber in a clearing is that it is the favourite home of *Termes gestroi* and for this reason should never be used for the heavy timber of any building. It has always been condemned by the Public Works Department in this country on account of its being supposed to be subject to dry rot. But I think this is a fallacy arising from the fact that when *Termes gestroi* has been at work the timber has the appearance of having decayed. Moreover, it is quite possible that the insects introduce wood rotting fungi (*vide* Mr. P. B. Richards' remarks on the subject in the *Agricultural Bulletin*, July and August, 1918, Vol. VI, No. 10, page 412). It certainly does not rot in clearings if it is not attacked by Termites, and, apart from this, the Kumpas shingle roofs have lasted for ten years and are still sound. In fact, Kumpas is the best timber for the purpose that the writer has come across in a long experience in Ceylon and South India where shingles were used in preference to any other kind of roofing material, principally on account of their being very cheap, cool and clean.

Tamil coolies are employed to split the shingles at a contract price of $5 per thousand. They usually work in gangs of six, and such a gang will finish 600 shingles per day and more when they become expert. Seven hundred shingles are sufficient to cover a roof area of 10 ft. × 10 ft. The cost of these in the field at 50 cents per 100 is $3.50. Two men can nail on 700 shingles a day, cost say $2. Cost of transport from the field, of course, varies with the distance the shingles have to be carried. A man can carry 50 shingles. The best plan is to have them carried in by coolies returning from work in the vicinity, cost say $1. Total cost per square $6.50.

The tools required for splitting are one cross cut saw, two or three small hand axes and a shingle splitting chisel which can be made by any blacksmith. It consists of a steel rod, 1 inch in thickness and 2 feet 6 inches in length with one end hammered out into a flat chisel blade 4 inches in width.

The method of procedure is as follows:—The Kumpas log is sawn into sections of 24 inches. A section is stood on end. One man holds the chisel in position and two others strike the head of the chisel with wooden mauls which they make for themselves. Three or four blows will split off a shingle. It is first necessary, however, to split off the sap wood, a ring of which will be found to a depth of about 2 inches and can be distinguished by its being of a much lighter colour than the heart wood. When the shingles have been split they are dressed with hand axes, that is, the splinters and inequalities chopped off and the edges made approximately parallel. The shingles will then be 24 inches in length and from $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width and about $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in thickness. It is difficult to saw the sections very accurately and it will be found that many shingles are only 22 inches in length which is the length required for the finished article. The extra two inches allowed for, in sawing up the tree into sections, is to ensure the shingles being of not less than 22 inches in length. Before being nailed on they should be sized. This work can easily be done by a cooly with a hand saw and a bench with a stop at 22 inches. The first line of shingles to be put on round the eaves should be sawn to 15 inches.

The pitch of the roof should not be less than 45 per cent. The rafters should be spaced at 3 feet and their section should be $5'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$ or $4'' \times 2''$ for narrow spans. Across these, laths are nailed at 7-inch centres. The size of these should be about 2 inches in width and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in thickness. It is very important that the spacing be accurate.

The nails used should be $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length and as thin as possible. Thick nails are liable to split the shingles. The first lath round the eaves should be of double thickness. The first line of 15-inch shingles must butt against the third lath and be nailed with one nail on the second lath. The next line of 22-inch shingles will butt against the fourth and be nailed on the third lath and so on. Needless to say it is of the utmost importance that all the joints be covered. If three joints coincide with each other the roof will of course leak. Ridges and gutters should be of 24 gauge galvanized iron, not less than 2 feet in width. Gable ends to roofs are cheaper, easier to make and more easily extended than hipped ends. The roof when completed will be covered with three layers of shingles, only one-third of each shingle being exposed.

Besides the foregoing, another profitable method of clean clearing is to saw up all sound timber, other than Kumpas, for building purposes. This can be done by Tamil coolies at the rate of five cents per foot sawyer's measurement, that is, width plus thickness multiplied by length. This gives the surface over which the saw passes. Timber sawn in this way is far cheaper than bought timber.

Having used up all the sound timber there still remain the stumps of trees and logs which for one reason or another cannot be used and the destruction of which would occupy much time and labour. A quick method of dealing with "white ant" nests in these is to use the "White Ant Exterminator" as a temporary measure. The nozzle of the machine should be introduced into the tree or stump in which a nest is known to exist and the fumes pumped in. Two or three coolies should stand by with a good supply of wet clay with which to plug up the interstices through which fumes are seen to escape. If any one doubts the efficacy of this method let him cut open a log the day after it has been treated, and I am sure he will be convinced that this is the best way in which a "White Ant Exterminator" can be used. The usual method is to employ two or three decrepit coolies to wander about with a machine and pump round the rubber trees on which the attacks appear. There may be many more trees on which the attacks are not apparent and which consequently do not receive treatment. The following is a further quotation from the article before mentioned: "To any one who has followed up a *Termes gestroi* tunnel, ramifying as it does sometimes for hundreds of feet, or has seen the interior of a termitarium with its myriads of individuals, the utter futility of attempting to eradicate the pest by means of insecticides must be apparent, but insecticides will be found useful in killing the comparatively few individuals, which continue their attack for some time after their termitarium is destroyed." This equally applies to any treatment at the points of attack.

The writer has traced a white ant tunnel for a distance of seven chains across clean cleared land and the nest containing the queen was found in a log on a neighbouring estate. In dealing with the pest it must be remembered that nests are always contained in timber and that the attacks from one nest may extend over an area of twenty acres.

The foregoing is written in reply to the many enquiries the writer has had regarding "shingles", also regarding "white ants" about which there seems to be a deplorable ignorance amongst some planters, in spite of all that has been published on the subject in the past ten years. This is probably due to the fact that the literature is out of print and new-comers are unable to avail themselves of it.

RUBBER SELECTION.

By H. W. Jack.

THE scientific study of the variations of the *Hevea* rubber tree has greatly developed during the last few years and investigators have proved beyond all doubt that *Hevea* presents a wide field for selection work in this country and the ultimate improvement of the rubber industry. Different workers have shown that the individual yields of rubber trees vary from practically nothing up to at least 30 pounds of dry rubber per annum and that 65 per cent. of the crop is derived from 20 per cent. of the trees on an estate. Thus, every rubber plantation consists of many poor and a few good yielders which contribute the main bulk of the crop. Moreover, it has been found that good trees remain good and poor trees continue to be poor yielders.

It is readily admitted that selective thinning out increases the yield of rubber, improves the bark renewal and reduces the cost of production but the selective thinning must be based on the production of individual trees. In the light of these recent developments, it is the intention of the Agricultural Department to initiate enquiries on the older estates with a view to locating the best trees and using them as stock for the foundation of rubber-breeding work. The success of work of this nature depends very largely on the scope of the original choice of parent stock and (over such an extensive area as the estates of this country present), wide selection of parent trees is only possible if the planters co-operate by assisting in the search for heavy yielding healthy trees. Selection work with a perennial crop, like rubber, is unavoidably slow, but as a necessary preliminary the planters are earnestly requested to watch out for especially high yielding trees and to report their existence to the Economic Botanist who will endeavour to arrange an inspection of the trees, and a measurement of the yield.

ERRATA.

On page 365, in the last line, *for* the figures "75" *read* "150" and *for* the figure "3" *read* "6".

NOTE ON RUBBER FROM HEVEA CONFUSA (Hemsl.).

By B. J. Eaton.

A SMALL sample of a tacky rubber said to be from a species of the Para rubber tree known as *Hevea confusa* was received at the Department of Agriculture from the Director of Gardens, Straits Settlements, during 1918.

Chemical examination of the sample gave the following results:

Mineral ash	1.00	per cent.
Resin (acetone extract)	1.90	,,
Proteins (N × 6.25)	2.20	,,
Caoutchouc (by difference) ...	94.90	,,

It will be seen from the above results that the sample did not contain an excess of resins; in fact the resin content may be described as low. The soft, tacky and non-resilient character of the sample is therefore not due to resins and is due almost certainly to the presence of a degraded caoutchouc. It would appear therefore that this species does not yield the true caoutchouc present in the latex of *Hevea brasiliensis*. The problem, however, requires further investigation, including chemical examination of rubber samples, combined with vulcanization tests, in order to correlate, if possible, the results of vulcanization tests with the composition of the rubber. Unfortunately, the sample received was too small for vulcanization tests. In *The Gardens' Bulletin, Straits Settlements*, Vol. II, No. 4, a description of the tree is given by Mr. Burkill, Director of the Gardens. In the same Bulletin, Vol. II, No. 6, a further note by Major Chipp, Acting Director of Gardens, is of interest and contains a letter from Prof. J. B. Harrison, Director of Science and Agriculture, British Guiana, which reads as follows: "Your records will show you that about 1910-1911, I wrote to your gardens seeking information about the seeds of *Hevea confusa* sent there from here about 1898-1900. Will you kindly inform Mr. B. J. Eaton that his analytical results on the rubber fully confirm those obtained here about 1910-1911 during the large scale tappings of *Hevea confusa* trees in our forests. We showed the *confusa* rubber at the Rubber Exhibition of 1911. When the soft rubber is kept for a length of time it very slowly gains resiliency and finally resembles slightly tacky or very inferior rubber from *Hevea brasiliensis*. Towards the end of 1910 the *Hevea confusa* rubber was valued in the United States of America at, approximately, 66 per cent. of the then price of Hard Para rubber. Some hundreds of pounds were said to have been used in the factory tests. It was, I believe, finally used as an ingredient in mixings for vulcanite.

"*Hevea confusa* has proved to be a most objectionable tree. Experience has shown that cross-fertilization between *Hevea confusa* and *Hevea brasiliensis* readily takes place, but worst of all, it appears

in the Guianas to be the forestral host plant of the organism giving rise to the leaf-disease of Para rubber, which disease has practically put an end to the chances of successful Para rubber cultivation in French and British Guiana."

The inferiority of the rubber from this species is therefore well known. It appears probable therefore that conditions might exist or be produced which would give rise to a mixture of polymers of caoutchouc in the latex of any rubber tree and the inferiority of a few samples of rubber which have been tested, and which were known to have been satisfactorily prepared, may be due to physiological conditions, at present unknown, which have produced a mixture of such polymers.

FOOD PRESERVATION IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

By C. E. Cumming and E. A. Hodges.

An Experiment in Cold Storage of the Durian.

THE durian is the fruit of the *Durio zibethinus* (Malay, *duri*, thorn) the only species which seems to be recognized, although the varieties are many, as is evident from their differing appearance, colour, shape, flavour, etc. Durians from certain localities or from special trees command a high price for superior quality. The smallest variety is found in the forest and frequently during the season forms a welcome and succulent addition to the fare of those in the jungle. As the name implies the fruit is thorny, covered with a hard thorny calyx or rind containing the edible pulp which is eaten fresh and the seeds which may be eaten either roast, boiled or sliced and fried, although nearly always thrown away. The shape of the fruit is oval or globular and the length generally six to ten inches, twenty durians were found to occupy a space of three cubic feet. The fruit may be described as delicious to some, especially to oriental races, and obnoxious to others, its odour may be classed as offensive and its food value as high. The fruiting season occurs twice annually the better being that during November, December, and January. At the height of a good season anything on wheels is employed to bring the fruit to market, while boat-loads may be seen on the rivers, heaps of fruit are to be seen and smelt in every town and village and on the wayside where not driven out by plantation rubber. During the seasons the durian provides a large part of the food supply of the oriental races.

Judging from the fact that good or special trees are found in groups, it would appear that seed from a good tree produces a tree that will yield good fruit, improvement seems to have been effected by seed selection but sufficient attention is not paid to selection of seed.

In December, 1919, twenty durians were placed in an iron tank, sunk in brine, which was kept as nearly as possible at an even temperature a few degrees below freezing point. A cold storage chamber would be preferable as it would permit of access and closer observation of the behaviour of the fruit during refrigeration.

After one month the fruit was examined and found to be quite fresh, hard, and the internal colouring unchanged whereas the thorny calyx had darkened in colour externally.

Unfortunately, for the future of cold storage of durians this fruit naturally releases its seed by segmentation and it was found that in nearly all cases the process had begun at the apexes in some cases extended half way along the fruit, thus exposing the pulp. While arrested as far as the pulp is concerned the process of ripening seems to continue in the calyx or rind accompanied by shrinkage. It is doubtful whether binding will arrest segmentation.

Five fruits were removed from cold storage at 9 p.m. on the 5th January, 1920, and found to be frozen hard, partly opened and almost odourless, the fruits were exposed to an atmospheric temperature of about 76 degrees Fahrenheit. Much of the flavour lacking.

At 3 a.m., 6th January, 1920.—Temperature 72 degrees Fahrenheit.

The fruit was still frozen, required some force to open it and had regained some of its original flavour.

9 a.m., 6th January, 1920.—Temperature 76 degrees Fahrenheit.

The rind had softened and the segments were wet and showing signs of decomposition along their central juncture. The pulp was further improved in flavour and in good condition although not up to requirements. The general appearance was uninviting.

3 p.m., 6th January, 1920.—Temperature 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

General decomposition had set in, commencing at the stalk and extending to the pulp. The whole fruit had changed in colour and was no longer fit for human consumption.

During the course of this experiment and up to 9 a.m. on the 7th January, 1920, the fruit did not at any time diffuse the odour with which it is invariably associated in ordinary circumstances.

Although crude in execution this experiment leads one to deduce that the durian is not a fit subject for cold storage.

THE PREPARATION OF "GAPLEK."

THE following is an abstract of a report by Mr. M. Rex, Malayan Civil Service, on the preparation and uses of gaplek, a dried preparation of tapioca or cassava (*Manihot* sp.), carried out in Java.

Preparation.—The preparation of gaplek from cassava is extremely simple. The roots or tubers are peeled and washed and then cut into lengths of about 3 inches and about the thickness of a cigar. The pieces are then dried in the sun for 2-3 days and are then fit for storage.

A variation of the above method consists of steeping the sticks for a few minutes in boiling water before drying. This is said to have the effect of enabling the product to be preserved for nearly a year whereas ordinary gaplek only keeps for 4-5 months.

Another variety known as "kripek" is prepared by cutting the roots into thin slices and drying as above. This variety is more easily milled than ordinary gaplek.

Uses.—Before use, gaplek in whatever form, has to be milled in order to remove the stringy fibres which are present in the tapioca root. The milling in Java is usually carried out in an ordinary wooden rice mortar; the flour can be used for all purposes to which wheat or other flours are put.

Value of product.—The advantage of gaplek over other similar food products is simplicity of manufacture and in Java the artificially low price at which the Government is able to purchase it by combining a virtual monopoly of tapioca export with its purchase.

The nutritive value is said by Mr. Rex to be considerably lower than that of wheat flour. This statement is correct, since gaplek or tapioca flour consists principally of starch and contains only a small percentage of nitrogenous substances, as compared with the gluten and other proteins present in wheat flour.

In Java its use as a substitute for rice has assumed considerable proportions.

Mr. Rex is of opinion that the conditions generally in this country are such that it is unlikely that gaplek will be used to any extent as a substitute for rice by the Asiatic population, unless the latter is at a very high price or unobtainable.

Remarks.—The preparation of gaplek is similar to the methods which have been employed with considerable success in Mesopotamia and India in the case of vegetables required for troops. Under satisfactory conditions of desiccation many vegetables can be prepared in such a manner that the flavour is retained, when the product is subsequently soaked in water and boiled. It is probable that very suitable biscuits could be prepared by baking the slices or sticks, in spite of the fibrous material present.

Sweet potatoes could also be dried and preserved in a similar manner. I understand that the Chinese do prepare sweet potatoes in a similar manner and convert them into a kind of biscuit. It may be advisable to add a note of warning against the extension or exclusive use of such a product in the case of coolies unaccustomed to a new food. The probable presence of hydrocyanic acid from a glucoside present in the root should not be overlooked. It is probable, however, that most of this is removed in the peeling, since experiments have shown that the glucoside is present principally in the rind or skin.

Soaking the slices in running water for several hours before sun-drying will also remove the danger.

The extensive use of the product by coolies unused to a new food-stuff might also cause stomach troubles.

B. J. E.

ACIDOTEX: A PROPRIETARY COAGULANT FOR HEVEA LATEX.

By B. J. Eaton.

A SAMPLE of a proprietary coagulant known as "Acidotex," prepared or sold in Penang, appeared on the local market some months ago and has been examined by the writer with the following results:

Description of Coagulant.—The coagulant consists of a heavy liquid of a yellow colour, having an odour of hydrochloric acid.

Results of Analyses.—On qualitative analysis, the sample was found to contain chlorides and sulphates; a considerable proportion of mineral ash remained on evaporation and ignition of the residue. The sample was strongly acid.

A quantitative analysis gave the following results:

Specific gravity at 85°C	1.445	
Sulphuric acid	59.3	per cent.
Hydrochloric acid	4.2	„
Mineral residue (Wt. per volume)	12.2	„
„ „ (Wt. per Wt.) ...	8.4	„

The mineral residue consisted chiefly of sodium sulphate which may have been derived from sodium sulphite, sodium bisulphite or sodium bisulphate in the original liquid.

The coagulating effect of the liquid is due chiefly to the sulphuric acid content and, as has been shown previously by experiments carried out in our laboratories, sulphuric acid is an undesirable coagulant of *Hevea* latex.

The use of this coagulant is therefore not recommended.

It will probably be found also that the price of the coagulant would be relatively higher than the price of say an equivalent amount of sulphuric acid, which is the chief constituent.

The coagulant is very similar in character to "Coagulatex" which was reported on by the writer in *Agricultural Bulletin*, Vol. IV, No. 11, August, 1916, page 355, but contains a higher percentage of salts.

HINTS ON SWEET POTATOES.

By E. S. Hose.

A DESCRIPTION of the method of cultivating sweet potatoes was published and distributed by the Department of Agriculture some months ago, but the following additional hints may prove useful at the present time to those who have had no previous experience of this crop.

It is advisable, during the period of active growth before maturity, not to allow the long trailing branches of the plants to root at the nodes. The branches should from time to time be turned back towards the centre of the ridge on which the plants are grown. The object of this is to secure a better yield of good tubers from the main roots.

If, when the plants have reached maturity, no immediate use can be found for the whole crop, it is better to leave those that are not required in the ground rather than to attempt to store them. It is, however, important to remember that those mature plants that it is intended to leave in the ground for digging at a later date should be allowed to trail and spread over the ground without further disturbance. As the tubers on the main roots are already mature there is no object in continuing to turn over the branches as described above, and this treatment, if continued after maturity, is likely to result in killing the plants.

It is stated by those who have had experience in the cultivation of sweet potatoes that by adopting the above methods the tubers can be kept in good condition in the ground for several months.

If for any reason it is found to be necessary to lift a larger quantity of sweet potatoes that can be made use of at once, great care should be taken not to bruise those tubers that it is intended to store, and they should be thoroughly dried in the sun before being taken to the store. The building used for storing sweet potatoes should be as cool and as dry as possible. In this way it should be possible under favourable conditions to keep the tubers in good condition for two or three months, but the better plan is to keep them in the ground until required, as already described.

There are several varieties of sweet potatoes, which vary in the period of reaching maturity from 3 to 6 months. It is, therefore, obviously desirable to take care that cuttings of different varieties are not indiscriminately mixed in planting.

It has been found by experience that cuttings taken from abandoned areas or areas in which sweet potatoes have been grown merely as a cover crop for a considerable time do not give satisfactory results. Care should be taken to select cuttings from properly cultivated fields.

In addition to the ordinary practice of boiling and eating sweet potatoes in a fresh state, the following methods of preserving the tubers for use, as required, are well known and practised in China, and may be adopted with advantage in cases in which crops are likely to exceed immediate requirements.

Dried Sweet Potatoes.

The fresh tubers should be washed, peeled, and steamed until about three-quarters cooked. They should then be cut into segments length-wise, spread out on mats or in baskets, and thoroughly dried in the sun for three days. They will then be in a tough condition and ready for keeping for a prolonged period, but, as there will still be a certain amount of moisture on the surface, they should be sprinkled with the powder obtained from No. 3 broken rice before being put away. If after several months it is found that dried sweet potatoes are too tough to be eaten with enjoyment they can be softened by re-steaming. Dried sweet potatoes are at the present time being sold in local shops for as much as 30 to 40 cents a kati.

Sweet Potato Biscuits.

The fresh tubers are cut into thin transverse slices. These slices are then fried in lard in the same way as ground-nuts are fried, and are afterwards dipped in liquid sugar. After drying, the biscuits should be kept in air-tight tins and will keep as well as any other biscuits. My informant considers that sweet potato biscuits are superior to any European biscuits. It is stated that sweet potato biscuits are being sold by hawkers in Singapore for $1 a kati. I am indebted for the above information to Mr. Choo Kia Peng, J.P., of Kuala Lumpur.

NOTE.

This Department has recently published a shortly worded hand-bill on Mouldy Rot and its treatment of which translations have been made in Malay, Chinese and Tamil. These are suitable for posting in cooly lines, estate shops, mosques and other public places. Applications for copies should be made to the Assistant Agricultural Inspector, Negri Sembilan, Seremban.

F. W. S.

NOTES ON FOOD PRODUCTION ON ESTATES AND MINING LANDS IN THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES DURING THE YEAR 1919.

By E. S. Hose.

THE accompanying tabular statement shows approximately the area cultivated with approved food-stuffs by owners of estates and mines in the different districts of the Federated Malay States during the year 1919. It will be observed that whereas 31,470 acres were required to be cultivated with food-stuffs, actually 45,520 acres were so cultivated, and in addition about 1,550 acres were cultivated by the labour of public departments. The figures for failure of crops cannot be regarded as at all accurate, as partial failures were very difficult to estimate. In many cases of failure, owing to drought, replanting was undertaken as soon as weather conditions permitted.

Return of Cultivation of Food-stuffs on Estates and Mining Lands in the Federated Malay States, 1919.

ESTATES.

District.	Total area of land in district.	Labour force.					Area required to be cultivated with food-stuffs.	Area actually cultivated with food-stuffs.				
		Indians.	Chinese.	Javanese.	Others.	Total.		Ragi.	Padi.	Sweet Potatoes.	Mixed crops.	Total.
	A. R. P.						A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Kuala Lumpur	35,925 1 00	5,156	2,000	163	27	7,346	841 0 00	436 2 00	156 2 00	266 2 00	5 0 00	864 2 00
Klang	100,520 3 17	19,916	1,600	251	125	21,892	2,248 0 00	1,819 2 00	955 2 00	90 0 00	26 0 00	2,891 0 00
Kuala Selangor	73,640 2 06	20,656	451	141	156	21,404	2,316 0 00	2,385 0 00	116 2 00	799 3 00	...	3,301 1 00
Kuala Langat ...	59,401 0 00	10,866	1,850	966	504	14,186	1,596 0 00	1,084 0 00	1,769 0 00	464 2 00	20 0 00	3,337 2 00
Ulu Langat ...	42,964 3 00	3,778	2,235	542	2,473	9,028	1,108 2 00	370 3 00	588 2 00	429 0 00	186 3 00	1,575 3 00
Ulu Selangor ..	12,304 2 27	2,161	986	109	86	3,342	432 2 00	187 0 00	199 0 00	493 2 00	87 0 00	966 2 00
Seremban ...	71,000 0 00	7,737	12,612	531	936	21,816	2,485 0 00	362 0 00	727 0 00	998 0 00	...	2,087 0 00
Tampin ...	33,824 0 26	1,001	3,555	14	312	4,882	955 3 00	41 0 00	162 0 00	706 1 00	...	909 1 00
Kuala Pilah ..	30,811 2 00	758	8,467	130	581	9,936	1,159 1 00	16 2 00	435 0 00	774 2 00	...	1,226 0 00
Coast* ...	39,224 1 29	1,347	5,350	70	243	7,010	1,214 2 00	96 2 00	226 1 00	331 1 00	...	654 0 00
Jelebu	8,302 1 02	265	962	37	91	1,355	141 1 00	27 0 00	60 0 00	112 1 00	...	199 1 00
Kinta	40,883 2 25	7,872	4,101	280	736	12,989	1,293 0 08	757 2 00	1,266 0 14	678 1 05	614 1 00	3,316 0 19
Batang Padang	34,651 1 31	7,958	4,017	172	205	12,352	1,235 0 00	553 0 00	738 0 00	315 0 00	...	1,606 0 00
Larut & Matang	50,720 2 30	7,426	2,326	176	4,139	14,067	1,204 0 00	619 0 00	900 2 00	414 0 00	...	1,933 2 00
Lower Perak ...	69,446 2 33	12,733	637	1,460	154	14,984	1,762 0 00	2,070 0 00	1,083 0 00	657 0 00	297 0 00	4,107 0 00
Sitiawan ...	22,909 2 34	4,670	776	284	73	5,803	687 0 00	886 2 00	252 2 00	1,224 2 00	...	2,363 2 00
Kuala Kangsar	57,801 3 29	6,596	3,755	237	708	11,296	1,355 1 00	898 2 00	1,179 3 00	446 2 00	...	2,524 3 00
Upper Perak ...	1,769 0 06	364	76	...	1	441	44 0 00	31 0 00	199 2 00	...	...	230 2 00
Krian	51,187 2 13	11,123	675	136	1,487	13,421	1,429 3 00	1,053 0 00	621 2 00	189 0 00	44 0 00	1,907 2 00
Kuala Lipis ...	9,793 0 00	45	609	200	192	1,046	105 0 00	25 0 00	30 0 00	2 0 00	36 2 00	93 2 00
Temerloh ...	21,193 1 34	217	1,877	...	115	2,209	221 0 00	9 2 00	...	209 3 00	...	219 1 00
Kuantau ...	14,625 2 14	165	2,744	2,709	121	5,739	574 0 00	7 0 00	301 2 00	109 0 00	390 0 00	807 2 00
Raub	8,553 1 08	1,035	557	8	21	1,621	188 2 16	6 1 06	98 0 00	44 1 38	9 0 00	157 3 04
Bentong ...	4,519 2 35	355	615	3	3	976	115 2 00	85 0 00	175 3 00	75 0 00	15 3 00	351 2 00
Total ...	895,975 0 39	134,200	62,833	8,619	13,489	219,141	24,711 3 24	13,827 0 06	12,241 1 14	9,830 0 08	1,732 0 00	37,630 1 23

* Return not complete yet.

Return of Cultivation of Food-stuffs on Estates and Mining Lands in the Federated Malay States, 1919—(cont.)

MINES.

State.	Total area of land in the State.	Labour force.					Area required to be cultivated with food-stuffs.	Area actually cultivated with food-stuffs.				
		Indians.	Chinese.	Javanese.	Others.	Total.		Ragi.	Padi.	Sweet Potatoes.	Mixed crops.	Total.
	A. R. P.						A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Perak	68,541 3 10	2,739	30,347	227	874	30,187	3,027 0 00	5 2 00	4,146 0 00	1,412 0 00	907 2 00	6,471 0 00
Selangor ...	31,279 0 00	386	21,743	16	60	22,205	3,465 0 00	...	284 0 00	919 3 00	2 0 00	1,205 3 00
Negri Sembilan	5,343 0 00	...	2,657	...	...	2,657	266 2 00	...	79 0 00	89 1 00	...	168 1 00
Pahang ...	1,501 1 18	...	560	...	...	560	..	...	...	...	44 2 00	44 2 00
Total ...	106,665 0 28	3,125	55,307	243	934	59,609	6,758 2 00	5 2 00	4,509 0 00	2,421 0 00	954 0 00	7,889 2 00
Total Agricultural...	895,975 0 39	134,200	62,833	8,619	13,489	219,141	24,711 3 24	13,827 0 06	12,241 1 14	9,830 0 03	1,732 0 00	37,630 1 23
Total Mining ...	106,665 0 28	3,125	55,307	243	934	59,609	6,758 2 00	5 2 00	4,509 0 00	2,421 0 00	954 0 00	7,889 2 00
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,002,640 1 27	137,325	118,140	8,862	14,423	278,750	31,470 1 24	13,832 2 06	16,750 1 14	12,251 0 03	2,686 0 00	45,519 3 23

NOTE.—Area reported by District Officers as having failed, owing to drought, inexperience or other causes are as below:

	A. R. P.
Ragi	1,350 0 00
Padi	1,100 0 00
Sweet Potatoes ...	600 0 00
Total ...	3,050 0 00

The above record does not include Chinese vegetable gardens and other small holdings cultivated with food-stuffs, the area of which cannot be accurately estimated.

It does not include areas of rubber interplanted with tapioca, which is grown for export.

The figures for the area cultivated with padi by Malays are not yet to hand for the present planting season, but they will probably be not less than 170,000 acres.

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,

held at 12, Market Street, Kuala Lumpur, on 28th January, 1920, at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT:

The Honourable Mr. F. G. Harvey (*Chairman*)
Mr. J. W. Kennedy (*Vice-Chairman*)
„ C. Ward-Jackson (*Secretary*)

DELEGATES:

From the	Bahau-Kuala Pilah D.P.A.	Messrs. J. S. Haycroft and A. L. Simmons
„	Batang Padang D.P.A. ...	„ C. B. Graburn and C. Darby
„	Batu Tiga D.P.A. ...	„ G. H. Bennett and Carlyle Bell
„	Central Pahang P.A. ...	M. le Vicomte R. de Bondy
„	Central Perak P.A. ...	Messrs. A. H. Orr and J. S. Ferguson
„	Johore P.A.	„ Chas. Prentice and W. B. Campbell
„	Kajang D.P.A.	Major C. Burn-Murdoch and Messrs. K G. Furley and L. A. Tucker
„	Kapar „	Messrs. H. Case and E. A. Ash
„	Kedah P.A.	„ F. R. Long and D. R. C. Lawford
„	Klang D.P.A.	„ R. Napier Hendrie, E. N. W. Oliver and H. R. Quartley
„	Kuala Langat D.P.A. ...	„ W. A. Stanton and H. O. Kennedy
„	Kuala Lumpur „ ...	„ W. B. Anderson, F. Clyde Jeavons, J. Bloomfield Douglas and J. Grieve
„	Kuala Selangor „ ...	„ R. A. White, A. B. Slee and J. B. Orr
„	Malay Pen. Agric. Assn. ...	„ H. H. Wardlaw and F. D. Hindley
„	Negri Sembilan P.A. ...	„ J. Bruce, Francis J. Fane, A. Burgess, G. W. Hingston, R. Gooch, A. Waterfield and F. J. Heherr
„	Taiping D.P.A.	Mr. W. H. Tate
„	Ulu Selangor D.P.A. ...	Messrs. G. C. Bailey and L. W. Tivy

HONORARY MEMBER.—Mr. L. Lewton-Brain (Director of Agriculture, F.M.S. and S.S.)

VISITORS.—Messrs. J. M. Bathgate, S. C. Yeomans, R. Thomson, D. A. Maclean, C. J. Arnold, E. E. Smith, N. H. Dakeyne, G. Warden, R. M. Bousfield, H. H. Bell, W. H. Bragg, and W. J. K. Stark (Acting Deputy Controller of Labour, Klang).

PRELIMINARY.

Mr. HARVEY refers to the recent death of Mr. J. Davidson McCulloch and to the great loss the Association has sustained thereby. He has been associated with Mr. McCulloch on the Standing Committee for many years and can speak of his great ability, and the enthusiasm displayed by him in all matters affecting the Association. He considers his untimely death to be a distinct loss to the planting community in general and to the Planters' Association of Malaya in particular, and proposes that a vote of condolence be sent to Mr. McCulloch's father.

The motion is carried in silence, all present standing.

Mr. HARVEY gives notice that the Standing Committee suggest taking item No. 7 on the agenda after disposing of item No. 3, as subjects at the bottom of the agenda paper often do not receive as much attention as they should.

1.—MINUTES.

On the proposal of Mr. Jeavons, seconded by Mr. Hindley, the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting are taken as read and are confirmed and signed.

2.—WAR.

The SECRETARY submits the following statements of accounts of the Planters' War Relief Fund of Malaya, and the F.M.S. War Relief Fund, Scheme No. 2.

THE PLANTERS' WAR RELIEF FUND OF MALAYA.

Subscriptions received from 1st November to 31st December, 1919.

	$ c.	$ c.
CENTRAL PERAK P.A.	90.00	
Wilson, T. K. ...	30.00	
		120.00
JOHORE P.A.		30.00
KAJANG D.P.A.		
Ferrers, C. R.		40.00
KUALA LUMPUR D.P.A.		
Smith, Sharpe, M.	51.42	
Barnett, G. P. ...	50.00	
Fox, A. J.	40.00	
		141.42
Carried forward		331.42

	$ c.
Brought forward	331.42
KUALA SELANGOR D.P.A.	
Gordon, W. M.	34.00
ULU SELANGOR D.P.A.	
Coe, P. F.	20.00
Grand Total	385.42

PLANTERS' WAR RELIEF FUND OF MALAYA.

Statement of Accounts from October to December, 1919.

	$ c.		$ c.
To Balance	1,291.82	By Balance	1,682.42
„ Collections ...	385.42		
„ Interest for half year to 31st Dec.	5.18		
	1,682.42		1,682.42

J. F. BROWN,
PLANTERS' WAR RELIEF FUND OF MALAYA,
Treasurer.

KUALA LUMPUR,
13th January, 1920.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES WAR RELIEF FUND, SCHEME No. 2. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT,
1ST JULY TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1919.

Receipts.	Amount. £ s. d.	Payments.	£ s. d.	Amount. £ s. d.
Balance from last account...	37,719 2 2	Grants and gratuities:		
Remittances from the Planters' Association of Malaya	500 0 0	Mrs. ——	25 0 0	
Contributions and Donations received through the Rubber Growers' Association	213 16 6	,, ——	30 0 0	
Interest on Investments...	72 11 3	,, ——	30 0 0	
Gain on sale of £2,000 6 per cent. Exchequer Bonds	66 15 6	,, ——	20 0 0	
		,, ——	30 0 0	
		,, ——	15 0 0	
		,, ——	9 0 0	
		,, ——	20 0 0	
		,, ——	30 0 0	
		,, ——	30 0 0	
		,, ——	30 0 0	
		,, ——	30 0 0	
		,, ——	30 0 0	
		Mr. ——	50 0 0	
		,, ——	35 0 0	
		,, ——	13 0 0	
		,, ——	20 0 0	
		,, ——	50 0 0	
				487 0 0
		Postages, Telegrams and Sundries		1 1 5
		Balance in hand		38,083 14 0
	38,571 15 5			38,571 15 5

The balance of £38,083 14s. is disposed of as under:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Five per cent. War Loan (£12,000) at cost	11,400 0 0	
Four per cent. Funding Loan (£2,500) at cost	2,000 0 0	
Five per cent. National War Bonds	21,000 0 0	
On deposit with Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	3,000 0 0	
	£ s. d.	
Balance of current account in Chartered Bank	741 14 0	
Less outstanding cheques	58 0 0	
	683 14 0	
	38,083 14 0	

(Sd.) W. T. TAYLOR,
17th October, 1919.

I hereby certify that I have audited the above statement of receipts and payments with the books and vouchers of the Fund and find the same to be correct. The grants have all been duly authorized by Committee.

(Sd.) A. H. CULLEN,
Chartered Accountant,
Honorary Auditor.

Mr. HARVEY states that the Planters' War Relief Fund subscription list will be kept open until the end of the Association's financial year.

3.—LABOUR.

(*a*)—IMMIGRANTS.

The SECRETARY submits the following correspondence:

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*30th December, 1919.*

"VISITORS TO INDIA.

"SIR(S),

"I beg to enclose copy of a letter from the Secretary, Indian Immigration Committee, and am to request you to submit the name of any member of your Association who would be willing and available to make the suggested trip.

"Believe me, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*"

"No. 4 in C. of L. 485/19.

"LABOUR OFFICE,
"PENANG,
"*20th November, 1919.*

"SIR,

"I have the honour to inform you that in view of the complaints received from time to time as to the treatment of immigrants during their passage from India to this country, it has been suggested that the conditions should be inspected by responsible Europeans, both Government and non-official, travelling frequently between India and Malaya.

"2. I have been requested by the Indian Immigration Committee to confer with your Association with a view to submitting to Government the names of a few non-officials who might be willing and available to make these trips, and I would ask you to bring the matter before your Standing Committee.

"3. It is to be understood that all expenses would be paid by Government.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) E. W. F. GILMAN,
"*Deputy Controller of Labour, Penang.*
"*Secretary, Indian Immigration Committee.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

The SECRETARY understands that District Planters' Associations are considering the matter of sending in names of those who are willing to go to India.

Mr. FERGUSON enquires how many names each District Planters' Association is expected to put forward.

The SECRETARY replies that no number was stated in the letter from the Controller of Labour.

Mr. HARVEY says the Immigration Committee suggest that a few members should go; but the Standing Committee thought it would be advisable if one member from each District Planters' Association endeavoured to make the suggested trip.

The SECRETARY submits the following correspondence:

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*30th December, 1919.*

(*b*) CARE OF LABOURER'S DEPENDANTS.

"SIR(S),

"I beg to forward copy of a letter from the Acting Controller of Labour, Federated Malay States, on this subject.

"The Standing Committee will appreciate your District Planters' Association's views.

"Believe me, etc.,

"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*"

"No. 4 in C. of L. 410/19.

"LABOUR OFFICE,
"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*24th November, 1919.*

"SIR,

"I have the honour to invite the attention of your Association to the question of the responsibility of employers in relation to the care of labourers' dependants, and to ask for an expression of opinion as to the desirability of altering the law dealing with the question.

"2. As you know, these dependants usually consist of old men and women who are unable to work, or very young children. I think it is very widely recognized that it is of primary importance for the building up of a stable and contented labour force that the labourers should regard their place of employment as their home and the majority of employers pay as careful attention to the welfare of the dependants as they do to that of the actual labourers.

"3. Under the existing law there are no powers to compel any care for dependants, and the attention of this Department has from time to time been drawn by Magistrates, Health Officers and

Estate Doctors to cases of neglect resulting in the death of labourers' dependants. I would draw your attention in particular to the number of cases of young children being drowned through falling into wells and drains.

"4. I would submit for your consideration that an amendment to the existing law, making it incumbent on employers to exercise the same degree of care and responsibility for the dependants of labourers as they now do for the labourers themselves, would add no additional burden to those far-sighted employers who see the importance of this matter in relation to the stability and contentment of their labour forces. It is my considered opinion that any expenditure on this head will inevitably be more than compensated for by the increased efficiency of the labour force.

"5. While the chief result of such amendment would be to grant powers to check cases of neglect which humanity and self-interest alike demand should not exist, I do not think that a matter of such universal importance should be left to chance.

"6. I would be glad if you would submit this matter to your Association at the earliest opportunity and acquaint me with their views with regard to this proposal.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) E. W. F. GILMAN,
"*Acting Controller of Labour, F.M.S.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*30th December, 1919.*

"SIR,

"With further reference to your letter No. 4 in C. L. 410/19, dated 24th November, I am directed by the Standing Committee to enquire what alteration in the law relating to the care of labourers' dependants is proposed or contemplated.

"2. Further, I am to request to be favoured with statistics and classified information relating to deaths of dependants outside hospitals, together with the number of cases of deaths, and duration of illness.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*

"THE ACTING CONTROLLER OF LABOUR,
"FEDERATED MALAY STATES,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"Office of Controller of Labour,
"S.S. and F.M.S.
"Kuala Lumpur,
"*9th January, 1920.*

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 30th December last on the subject of the proposal to alter the law relating to the care of labourers' dependants.

"2. As pointed out in my letter of even number of 24th November there is at present no section in the Labour Code requiring provision to be made for labourers' dependants by an employer.

"3. To bring these dependents within the scope of the law the principal sections that would need to be amended are 189, 190, 205 and 210.

"Certain amendments to these sections have been suggested but the Government would wish to ascertain the views of your Association before moving further in the matter.

"4. The amendments proposed are as follows:

"*Section 189*—After the words 'otherwise in his control' in line 6—add 'and for the parents, wife and children or adopted children, being minors, of any such labourer or any one of them resident with and dependant on him'.

"*Section 190*—(i) line 3 after 'clean' omit 'and' and after 'sanitary' insert 'and safe'.

(ii) line 1 after 'labourer' insert 'or his dependant'.
line 3 after 'labourer' insert 'or dependant'.

"*Section 205*—line 3 after 'estate' insert 'or his parents or his wife or his child or adopted child, being a minor, or any one of them dependant on him and residing with him'.

"*Section 210*—(i) (*a*) after 'estate' insert 'and every person dependant on such labourer for whom the employer is bound under section 189 to make provision'.

"*Section 210*—(ii) line 1 after 'labourer' insert 'or labourer's dependant'.

"Corresponding alterations would also be required in sections 195 (i) and 198 (water supply), 240 (expenses of Government Hospital treatment) and 207 (provision for treatment of sick).

"5. I regret that I am not in a position to supply the statistics asked for in paragraph 2 of your letter, as I am not aware that information of the kind has ever been called for from employers, but the attached memoranda which have been submitted by me to Government in this connection will perhaps be of assistance to your Committee in considering the question.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) E. W. F. Gilman,
"*Acting Controller of Labour, F.M.S.*

"The Secretary,
"Planters' Association of Malaya,
"Kuala Lumpur."

MEMORANDUM on minute by the Honourable Legal Adviser on certain proposed amendments of the Labour Code:

"The immediate occasion of my bringing forward this proposal was a letter received earlier in the year (in March) from Dr. Dowden, Medical Officer, Batang Padang, concerning the death of a Tamil male child in the Tapah Hospital as the result of starvation and neglect previous to admission. With regard to this case Dr. Dowden had written to the Police: 'I consider an inquest necessary in view of the numbers of cases of gross neglect of orphans by their guardians which come to my knowledge and because I have found so many cases of neglect and carelessness in connection with the estate from which this child came.'

"Since the receipt of the Legal Adviser's minute I have been in communication with Dr. Dowden, who writes (on September 15):

"My difficulty is that beyond the usual records no definite histories of cases are available.

"I put up a list of admissions from February, 1918, to-date and the vast majority have been cases of neglect.

"I do not think that other Medical Officers realize the gravity of the neglect of children and I am afraid definite records will not be obtainable, but the fact remains that there is gross neglect which I have been drawing attention to for some years in vain.

"I have in C. of L. 401/19, dated 28th July, 1919, submitted a special memorandum on the subject of deaths by drowning of the children of estate labourers.

"This is only one aspect of the problem raised in the present correspondence, though it is one in which neglect is perhaps more obvious than in cases arising from disease.

"Since the date of that memorandum I have received the following minute from the Deputy Public Prosecutor:

"Please see.—This is another case of—in my opinion—avoidable child death.

"Since I began to write to you about these cases I think there have been about 10 children drowned in 'Parits' near the estate lines.

"I have not at hand any concrete instance of neglect of adult dependants.

"In the letter from which I have quoted Dr. Dowden wrote, 'the Magistrate here holds that there is no legal duty which compels estate managers to look after dependants of coolies, e.g., women and children.'

"I have myself on more than one occasion come across a case of delay in sending an adult patient to hospital where the employer has excused himself, as he legally could, on the ground that the person in question was not on the check roll, i.e., was a dependant,

"I do not think that in practice the carrying out of the suggestion will impose any large additional burdens on employers. Ostensibly the vast majority of employers do make provision already for these dependants only there being no legal obligation on them to do so cases of neglect go unpunished. It would, I think, be as well if before any further steps are taken the Planters' Association of Malaya were asked for their views.

"(Sd.) E. W. F. GILMAN,
"*Acting Controller of Labour, F.M.S.*"

Kupanamah, age 1 year, female Tamil, abscess thigh.
Medlline, age 10 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Guruvanah, age 3 years, female Tamil, prolapoerect and diarrhœa.
Raman, age 12 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Sovamalai, age 6, male Tamil, malaria.
Balan, age 14 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Punie, age 2½ years, female Tamil, malaria.
Annamalai, age 1½ years, female Tamil, malaria.
Appalavan, age 3 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Savathamal, age 5 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Nagalingam, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Poomathi, age 3 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Pyditali, age 4 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Arokiam, age 4 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Sinnappan, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Rathnam, age 10 years, male Tamil, beaten.
Punusamy, age 15 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Malayan, age 2 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Krishnan, age 1 year, male Tamil, malaria.
Aseervatham, age 10 years, male Tamil, neglected malaria.
Kumaravalu, age 4 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Ramasamy, age 1 year, male Tamil, malaria.
Ramasamy, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Servanan, age 1½ years, male Tamil, ulcerations of mouth.
Krishnamah, age 7 years, female Tamil, rape.
Kandiah, age 1 year, male Tamil, neglected burns.
Supramanian, age 1½ years, male Tamil, malaria.
Mariamah, age 2 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Engadi, age 10 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Krishnan, age 3 years, male Tamil, abscess ear.
Kannu, age 6 years, female Tamil, abscess ear.
Muniandy, age 8 years, male Tamil, neglected skin disease.
Krishnan, age 4 years, male Tamil, neglected malaria.
Kannu, age 7 years, male Tamil, abscess ear.
Sakarian, age 2 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Raman, age 1½ years, male Tamil, malaria.
Mariammah, age 7 years, female Tamil, malaria.

Perumari, age 3 years, female Tamil, ankylostomiasis.
Raman, age 13 years, male Tamil, ankylostomiasis.
Nalianan, age 4 years, female Tamil, malarial fever.
Ramasamy, age 1 year, male Tamil, malarial fever.
Perumal, age 1½ years, female Tamil, malaria.
Kalimuthu, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Mariakuyan, age 8 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Kaliani, age 2 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Muthu, age 6 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Navarisian, age 8 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Chetty, age 8 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Muniandy, age 11 years, male Tamil, neglected abscess.
Kuppumah, age 8 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Ramasamy, age 10 years, male Tamil, ankylostomiasis.
Nallamuthu, age 12 years, male Tamil, septic wound.
Muthu, age 4 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Mariamah, age 3 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Rajamah, age 13 years, female Tamil, ankylostomiasis.
Palchimah, age 10 months, female Tamil, malaria.
Nugamah, age 6 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Namupillai, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Raju, age 3 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Thangam, age 14 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Muniamah, age 13 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Kaluminamah, age 3 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Kaliapan, age 8 months, male Tamil, malaria.
Chinnamah, age 4 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Manikam, age 4½ months, male Tamil, malaria.
Suppiah, age 3 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Perumal, age 7 years, male Tamil, dysentery.
Valliamah, age 2 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Valliamah, age 1 year, female Tamil, malaria.
Muniami, age 2 years, female Tamil, intestinal parasites.
Kupumah, age 12 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Engudu, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Rengamah, age 1 year, female Tamil, intestinal parasites.
Sinnammah, age 6 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Savarimuthu, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Arulandu, age 5 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Inasumuthu, age 2 years, male Tamil, a.c. bronchitis.
Rayappan, age 7 years, male Tamil, malaria s.t.
Jeevarathnam, age 10 years, female Tamil, malaria s.t.
Rama, age 8 years, female Tamil, malaria s.t.
Veerapan, age 8 years, male Tamil, malaria s.t.
Senganah, age 13 years, male Tamil, malaria s.t.
Senasee, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria s.t.
Perumal, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria s.t.
Paripuram, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria s.t.

Sanasee, age 10 years, female Tamil, intestinal parasites.
Ramasami, age 14 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Rajagopal, age 1 year, male Tamil, malaria.
Pachimuthu, age 5 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Thangapa, age 11 years, male Tamil, neglected itch.
Gopal, age 5 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Seevarathnam, age 13 years, female Tamil, malaria b.t.
Navarathnam, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Anathmah, age 7 years, female Tamil, malaria b.t.
Nallamah, age 13 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Muniandy, age 14 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Mookan, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Munisamy, age 3 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Vellasamy, age 9 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Rajoo, age $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, male Tamil, diarrhœa (neglected).
Munisamy, age 7 years, male Tamil, corneal ulcer, one eye blind.
Anthony, age $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, male Tamil, neglected itch.
Mariamah, age 3 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Vellasamy, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Velliamah, age 16 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Muniappillai, age 1 year, male Tamil, dysentery.
Letchumy, age 14 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Anthonymuthu, age 2 years, male Tamil, bronchitis.
Ponusamy, age 2 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Raman, age 2 years, male Tamil, corneal ulcer (neglected).
Dhanakoti, age 8 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Ragavan, age 12 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Sinamah, age 5 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Punusamy, age 13 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Kupummah, age 12 years, female Tamil, anæmia.
Letchmiah, age 12 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Dhanakoti, age 12 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Pachimah, age 5 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Sivalingam, age 1 year, male Tamil, malaria.
Chinafeli, age $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, female Tamil, malaria.
Ebraham, age 10 months, male Tamil, malaria.
Sinnammah, age 10 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Govindan, age 4 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Appamah, age 15 years, female Tamil, lac. wound.
Sathimah, age 15 years, female Tamil, assault.
Amurtham, age 11 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Ammarsi, age 13 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Munisamy, age $1\frac{1}{2}$ years, male Tamil, malaria.
Chengana, age 8 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Palani, age 12 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Jesudasen, age 13 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Velumah, age 14 years, female Tamil, malaria.

Govindan, age 4 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Savaranamuthu, age 4 years, male Tamil, neglected itch.
Krishnasamy, age 1 year, male Tamil, intestinal parasites.
Suppiah, age 1½ years, male Tamil, malaria fever.
Ponnan, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria fever.
Mariamah, age 3 years, female Tamil, intestinal parasites.
Letchamah, age 12 years, female Tamil, malaria.
Kangamuthu, age 13 years, male Tamil, malaria.
Ponumah, age 3 years, female Tamil, septic burn.
Govindan, age 4 years, male Tamil, intestinal parasites.
Letchumah, age 13 years, female Tamil, malaria b.t.
Kandasamy, age 13 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Muthusamy, age 12 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Mohamed, age 11 years, male Tamil, malaria b.t.
Suppiah, age 3 years, male Tamil, burns.
Koilpillay, age 10 years, male Tamil, malaria fever.
Doraisamy, age 15 years, male Tamil, malaria fever.
Alamu, age 11 years, female Tamil, malaria fever.

The death of children of estate labourers by drowning in disused wells, drains, etc.

During recent years a number of instances have been noted of the accidental death of labourers' children usually while their parents were at work.

There has been correspondence about the following cases:

9- 4-13, Brafferton Estate, drowned in a well.
11- 6-14, Bukit Nanas Estate, drowned in a well.
11- 6-14, Newton Estate, drowned in a well.
9-11-15, Dusun Durian Estate, drowned in a well.
10- 6-16, Jugra Estate, drowned in a well.
19-11-18, Kuala Selangor Estate, drowned in a well.
29-11-11, Pembroke Estate, drowned in a drain.
9-12-18, Selaba Estate, drowned in a drain.
10-12-18, Sabrang Estate, drowned in a well.
9-12-11, Arcadia Estate, drowned in a drain.
Jan. 19, Dennistown Estate, drowned in a drain.
29- 5-19, P.W.D., Teluk Anson, drowned in a drain.
11- 5-19, Arcadia Estate, drowned in a well.
1- 6-19, Brooklands Estate, drowned in a drain.
2- 4-19, Vallambrosa Estate, drowned in a drain.
2- 7-19, Escot Estate, drowned in a river.

Fresh attempts have continually been made to deal with the matter.

On 27th May, 1913, the Acting Controller of Labour issued general instructions to the Labour Department that managers should be called upon to provide suitable fences round all wells which are in close proximity to lines.

In March, 1914 (C. of L. 521/15), the Health Officer, Coast, issued a circular to all managers in his district informing them that in the event of children being drowned in unprotected wells employers would probably be held responsible for contributory negligence.

By November, 1915, however, no magistrate had convicted an employer on this count, and the Deputy Public Prosecutor held that it was impossible to convict. He pressed the Health Officer to use his powers under section 196 of the Labour Code to have unprotected wells closed. But the Health Officer refused to take this action on the ground that they were given him only to safeguard the health of labourers.

In January, 1919, the Judicial Commissioner, Perak, called the attention of the Deputy Controller of Labour, Penang, to the frequency of these deaths. The Deputy Public Prosecutor was of the opinion that the arrangements for the nursing and supervision of children were probably defective.

On 28th February, 1919, the Acting Deputy Controller of Labour, Penang, circularized 150 employers in Perak suggesting that they should construct creches. I enclose a copy of the circular. A minority of employers undertook to construct creches, but they have by no means all done so. A number of them raised various objections. As an instance, the Manager of Arcadia Estate, Bagan Datoh, on which a child had been drowned on 9th December, 1918, by falling into a drain, maintained that the caste difficulty was too great. On 22nd March, 1919, he was asked to reconsider his decision. On 11th May, 1919, another child was drowned by falling into a well.

In January last the matter was also discussed by the Deputy Public Prosecutor, Selangor, who on again considering the possiblity of obtaining convictions under section 304A of the Penal Code decided in the negative.

On the 5th instant the Deputy Public Prosecutor, Selangor, addressed me in the words: "I hold the view that these deaths could be prevented or their number reduced by ordinary precautions enforced by law."

I concur with his opinion. I think the best way of providing a legal safeguard will be by the amendment of section 190 of the Labour Code in connection with the amendments to section 189, etc., already proposed (my letter of July 10, C. of L. 410-19) so as to cover dependants of labourers.

(Sd.) E. W. F. GILMAN,
Acting Controller of Labour,
Federated Malay States.

29th July, 1919.

"LABOUR OFFICE,
"PENANG,
"*28th February, 1919.*

"SIR,

"I have the honour to inform you that many instances have been brought to my notice recently of the drowning of children by falling into open drains near cooly lines.

"2. It is a matter on which His Honour the Judicial Commissioner has found reason to comment.

"3. I would suggest that the occurrence of these lamentable accidents might largely be obviated by the construction of creches. A small sanded space near the lines, enclosed and covered with a roof, in the charge of an ayah paid to assume responsibility for the children kept there during working hours should meet the purpose.

"4. I should be glad if you would consider the matter and inform me if you are willing to take the action I recommend.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) G. A. DE C. DE MOUBRAY,

"*Acting Deputy Controller of Labour, Penang.*

"THE MANAGER,

".....ESTATE."

Mr. HARVEY says it is clear that the Controller of Labour has gone very fully into the matter, and it is gratifying to note that the Planters' Association of Malaya has been consulted before an amendment of the law is decided upon. He thinks all will agree that the proposed amendments are necessary for the well-being of the Tamil population on estates, and he does not think the introduction of the suggested amendments to the Labour Code would cause any hardship to employers. He invites delegates to state their views. There being no reply, he takes it that there is no opposition to the alterations proposed by the Controller of Labour and the Legal Adviser.

Mr. KENNEDY thinks the Association's thanks should be conveyed to the Controller of Labour for having consulted them before deciding upon so important a matter.

Agreed to.

(*c*) REGISTER OF TAMIL NAMES OF ESTATES.

The SECRETARY reports that the Standing Committee have decided that a register of Tamil names of estates should be issued as an appendix to the Annual Report of the Association for the year 1919-20.

4.—RATE OF EXCHANGE TO INDIA.

Mr. HARVEY announces that the Standing Committee wish to put forward three resolutions on this subject, which were decided upon as the result of two sittings of the Standing Committee at which this question in all its bearings was thoroughly discussed. He reads the resolutions:

(1) "That it is extremely advisable in view of the future successful recruiting of labour from India that all estates in Malaya agree to allow an exchange rate of Rs. 175=$100 on all *bona fide* remittances by labourers to their relatives in India for the current year.

(2) That it is not at present necessary to increase the usual daily rates of pay.

(3) That the practice of supplying rice to labourers below cost price be continued."

He and Mr. Kennedy, as well as others, had interviews with Mr. Scott of the Madura Company, who reported that Malayan planters would be up against many recruiting rivals in the near future. Ceylon is embarking upon an entirely new system of recruiting, following Malayan lines. Other countries are also extending their activities, while the requirements of India itself was rapidly increasing and all are looking to Southern India for the labour they require. It appears to him to be very evident that Malayan planters are not going to have things their own way in the future. Mr. Scott's great point was that, whereas formerly the cooly who came to Malaya got Rs. $1\frac{2}{4}$ for every dollar he saved, now he gets only one rupee, to say nothing of the possibility of his receiving less than a rupee, if the rate of exchange becomes still more adverse as far as this country is concerned. Mr. Scott thinks this fact weighs more with the cooly than anything else, although it is admitted that coolies are well housed and well treated in Malaya. He is sure all present are aware that the demand for labour was increasing day by day, and he feels sure that in the years 1920-21 the demand will be greater than it has ever had been before. The Standing Committee therefore considered it very necessary to go thoroughly into the matter and had put forward certain proposals for the guidance of District Planters' Associations. They also came to the conclusion that what they wanted chiefly was to get coolies, and with that purpose they did not consider it either necessary or desirable to raise wages; but it was eminently desirable to offer greater attractions to the Tamil cooly to come over to the Federated Malay States and thus endeavour not to be left behind in the competition with which they were being faced by other countries. They could be quite sure of one thing, and that was other recruiters in the field would make a great point of asking the cooly why he should go to Malaya, where he got only one rupee for one dollar, when he might go to other countries on more advantageous terms. The Standing Committee put forward their proposals in order to refute such an argument. There were a great many issues depending on the matter. He says Mr. Kennedy in Committee had adduced three reasons why recruiting will suffer in Malaya, namely, (1) rate of pay, (2) cost of rice, (3) adverse exchange. Either they had to increase the rate of coolies' pay, or give compensation for adverse exchange and continue issuing rice below cost price. The Standing Committee think that rates of wages in the country are adequate, and they do not consider the time has come for raising them. He is aware it has been alleged that their suggestions were put forward in order to camouflage the issue; but it would be extremely rash definitely to decide to raise wages all round by 50 per cent. as suggested, especially is this so in view of the rumour that the dollar will sooner or later be raised in value. If the exchange goes up, the compensation they would have to pay would be decreased. If rice became cheaper they could automatically do away with the loss they are incurring. He refers to the discussion which took place at a meeting of the Kuala Lumpur District Planters' Association a few days previously on this subject, at which a member described the difficulties they would have to face in the matter of exchange compensation as insurmountable, while another called them unsurmountable. He is not aware that any difficulties will be met that cannot be overcome if estates create the necessary organization.

Mr. Quartley had outlined to the Standing Committee a simple method by which compensation on remittances could be worked and controlled. The member of the Kuala Lumpur District Planters' Association to whom he referred thought a good deal of unrest would be caused among coolies if their wages were not raised. His own view is that coolies are perfectly satisfied with the wages they are getting. They know they are better off here than in their own country. Estate tappers, for instance, are paid exceedingly good wages especially when working on the contract system. He is convinced that the matter cannot rest where it is just because 1919 had been a splendid recruiting year. He thinks they should spare no efforts, especially having regard to the enormous developments that were taking place in the Federated Malay States. Labour is recruited not only for rubber estates but for other industries as well. The prosperity and development of the country were dependant upon an adequate supply of labour. He calls attention to the other side of the picture as represented by another member of the Kuala Lumpur District Planters' Association, who had stated that the concessions advocated by the Standing Committee would be a good advertisement and might attract sufficient labour to Malaya, in which case all labour troubles would be done away with. The question of the rate of compensation was one for consideration. The Standing Committee had recommended Rs. 175 for $100, but there was no reason why these figures should not be amended. He saw Mr. Gilman the previous day, who was of opinion that Rs. 150 for $100 would be a better rate. Mr. Gilman's reason for this was because it was more likely that that rate would be generally accepted by all planters. The average rate for the first half of 1919 was Rs. 150, which rate had been adopted by the Malacca Planters' Association. He himself is inclined to agree with Mr. Gilman, but the Standing Committee put down Rs. 175 for $100, as they desired to give the cooly Rs. 1¾ for every dollar, as he has been able to get in the past.

Mr. KENNEDY is in whole-hearted agreement with Mr. Harvey and thinks the question of the future is the supply of labour for this country. It is one of the most serious and difficult problems that agriculturists have to deal with. The question planters have to decide is what policy will most favourably impress coolies in India—a general rise in wages or compensation for loss on rate of exchange and continuing to supply rice at less than half cost price as at present. One of the attractions in Malaya has been that for every dollar a cooly saved and remitted to India he received Rs. 1¾. He is inclined to the belief that unless some attractions are offered the recruiting of labour will certainly suffer very severely. He therefore thinks the better course is to compensate the cooly for loss on exchange and to continue to supply him with rice below cost price, than to adopt a policy of general increase in wages. Further, he considers that such a course would have an infinitely greater moral effect on coolies in India.

Mr. HARVEY says Mr. Quartley suggested that, to prevent any abuse, managers should make it a condition that no cooly should be permitted to remit more than 50 per cent. of his earnings every month. The idea is that a Savings Bank or Deposit Account should be started into which the cooly could pay up to 50 per cent. of his

wages when he received his wages. Thus a cooly who had a balance of $8 to draw would be allowed to deposit $4, and that money would be held over for him until such time as he had sufficient money to remit to India, when the estate would apply for a money order at the preferential rate of exchange. If some such scheme were adopted, managers would be able to check abuses, as no cooly would be able to obtain money from outside. In the event of a cooly wishing to return to India he could withdraw his deposit and his manager could give him the preferential rate of exchange on the production of satisfactory evidence that he was returning to India.

Mr. Ash expresses the opinion that compensation for exchange when remitting money to India would benefit the bachelor more than it would the family man, as the latter might be able to save only little money to remit to India and would therefore derive no benefit, whereas, if wages were increased, all would benefit alike.

Mr. Bennett understands coolies would have to pay the market price for rice if wages were raised. He does not see the necessity for the family man to remit money to India at all since his family is here.

Mr. Oliver says the idea of the whole matter is what is going to make this country more attractive to the cooly. Was the fact that he will be able to send more money to India going to attract the cooly or would he be more attracted by the fact that he will be better off in this country than any other? By giving a preferential rate of exchange they were going to make conditions attractive, not only to the spendthrift but to the thrifty as well. His own opinion is that the spendthrift type of cooly is more valuable than the thrifty one, because he spends all his money here and is a good type and is quite contented with his lot, whereas the thrifty cooly saves as much as he can with a view of remitting to India. If wages were raised, the report would spread throughout India that coolies were given high wages here, and in his view it will attract more labour than the fact of allowing coolies compensation for loss on exchange.

Mr. Graburn thinks if the Standing Committee's proposals are adopted that the anti-recruiters in India will be deprived of one of their strongest weapons. He is quite sure that the unfavourable exchange rate is a most valuable weapon of anti-recruiters, and a preferential rate of exchange would have a most salutary effect upon recruiting.

Mr. Tivy says his Association has not been able to discuss the matter owing to the short notice given him that these resolutions were to be brought forward to-day.

Mr. Ferguson enquires whether, in the event of the resolution being passed, the Planters' Association of Malaya has power to cause them to be carried out. In his view it would have exactly the same effect as any attempt to bring wages to a uniform rate. He presumes that any resolutions that may be passed will only be advisory.

Mr. HARVEY replies that the resolutions are only recommendations put forward by the Standing Committee for the guidance and consideration of delegates. He is aware that the Association has no power to procure the adherence of managers to any of them. What is desired is that the Planters' Association of Malaya should express itself as being strongly in favour of the recommendations contained in the resolutions. Then, no doubt, every member would do his best to carry them out.

Mr. HENDRIE enquires what percentage of money has been remitted to India by coolies during the last year or two.

Mr. HARVEY replies in 1918 out of a total of 140,000 coolies 32,793 remitted $1,644,555=Rs. 2,244,555, or 15 per cent. of the total payments in this country.

Mr. OLIVER claims that the figures given support his theory. They showed that only 15 per cent. of their labour was benefitted. He would like to know what happened to the remaining 85 per cent.

Mr. HARVEY regrets that Mr. Oliver is unable to understand the point that the recommendations were not for the benefit of those coolies who are now in the country, but for the benefit of those who would be coming to it.

Mr. ORR suggests that compensation should be Rs. 150 for $100.

Mr. BENNETT thinks it far more advisable for the cooly to be given Rs. 175 as before. If they made it Rs. 150, anti-recruiters and recruiting rivals would still be able to make capital out of the argument that the cooly is still the loser on the old exchange rate.

Mr. BAILEY is of opinion that if compensation is fixed at Rs. 150 their rivals in the recruiting field might offer better terms.

Mr. JEAVONS asks the Chairman what the delegates of his Association should do. They wanted more time to consider the question. Their members were very divided on the subject. He would like to know whether they should vote at this meeting.

Mr. HARVEY is of opinion that delegates have the right to use their own discretion. He does not see how they could be bound by instructions from their District Planters' Associations, unless those instructions were explicit and had reference on a definite issue. The matter before the meeting is an urgent one and he is of opinion that delegates should vote as they think.

Mr. LAWFORD says the Kedah Planters' Association is in favour of the resolutions and of compensation at the rate of Rs. 175 for $100.

Messrs. de BONDY, BENNETT, BRUCE, KENNEDY, TATE and OLIVER state that the respective Associations from which they are delegates, namely, Central Pahang Planters' Association, Batu Tiga District Planters' Association, Negri Sembilan Planters' Association, Malay Peninsula Agricultural Association, Taiping District Planters' Association, and Klang District Planters' Association, are in favour of the resolutions.

On the motion of Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Fane, the resolutions are put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.*

5.—FOOD.

(*a*) District Deliveries of Rice.

Mr. Harvey reminds delegates that at the Penang meeting Messrs. Lee Warner and D. A. M. Brown had promised to do everything possible to facilitate district delivery of rice to estates. Since that time he has had a considerable amount of work in connection with this scheme which was inaugurated on 1st January. As far south as Rawang all rice is despatched from Prai by special train, and for places south of Rawang it is carried in specially reserved cargo space in ships and discharged at Port Swettenham. Bags containing rice are unloaded at Port Swettenham and are placed into trucks which, when filled, are sealed and despatched to the respective consignees. This work is supervised by the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Malaya. He is willing to admit that there may be defects in the working of the scheme, but on the whole is of opinion that the experiment has been a highly successful one. He asks delegates to bear in mind that it is hard to reach perfection in the first month of the working of such a scheme, but he is sure that more perfect arrangements will be made next month. He thinks it is a great advantage to estates to know precisely at what time their rice will arrive.

Mr. Bruce asks whether it could be arranged for estates to be advised by telegram of the time of arrival of their rice. At present sometimes they sent their carts and lorries to remove rice only to find that the train would not arrive until the next day.

The Secretary refers to the fact that one day a vessel shipped 900 bags short, the shortage being brought by a steamer arriving the following day. Such mistakes were liable to occur, but if managers would notify him or the Food Controller of such occurrences, or of any other defects in the system, no doubt better arrangements could be made. He says it frequently happens that when a boat arrives late in the day the trucks were despatched after time. Further, in the event of rain it is impossible to unload rice, which again causes delay in despatch.

Mr. Harvey says he will endeavour to arrange to notify estates by telegram in the event of late despatch of rice.

Mr. Jeavons wishes to say that his rice arrived according to schedule time and that the loss was less than 5 per cent. as against 15 per cent. formerly.

(*b*) Government Bonus.

The Secretary submits the following correspondence :

"No. 9 in 130/19.

"Office of the Director of Food Production, S.S. & F.M.S.,

"Kuala Lumpur,

"*31st October, 1919.*

"Sir,

"With reference to the scheme for granting a bonus of $5 an acre in respect of areas cultivated with food-stuffs in excess of the area required to be cultivated by order under the Food Production

Enactment, I have the honour to inform you that the date before which crops must be brought to maturity in order to be eligible for a bonus has been extended to 31st March, 1920.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) E. S. Hose,
"*Director of Food Production, F.M.S. and S.S.*

"The Secretary,
"Planters' Association of Malaya,
"Kuala Lumpur."

"Kuala Lumpur.
"*3rd November, 1919.*

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 9 in 130/19 of the 31st ulto., informing me that the date before which crops must be brought to maturity in order to be eligible for the Government bonus has been extended to 31st March, 1920.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. Ward-Jackson,
"*Secretary.*

"The Director of Food Production, F.M.S. & S.S.;
"Kuala Lumpur."

"Kuala Lumpur,
"*10th January, 1920.*

"Sir,

"I have the honour to request to be informed of the Government's requirements for 1920 as to the compulsory cultivation of food-stuffs on estates.

"2. An early reply will be appreciated.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. Ward-Jackson,
"*Secretary.*

"The Director of Food Production, F.M.S.
"Kuala Lumpur."

"Office of the Director of Food Production,
"F.M.S. and S.S.
"Kuala Lumpur,
"*20th January, 1920.*

"No. 2 in 11/1920.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant.

"2. In view of the continued uncertainty of the situation as regards imported rice, and of the very high price that has to be paid

for our supplies of such rice, it is considered that there must be no relaxation in our efforts to economize in the use of imported rice, and to make all possible use of other food-stuffs, whether imported or locally grown, as partial substitutes for rice.

"3. It is recognized, however, as the result of the past year's experience that there are many cases in which it is impracticable for estates or mines to cultivate food-stuffs with any reasonable prospects of success.

"4. A modification has, therefore, been approved of the requirement to cultivate food-stuffs to meet such cases. Instead of cultivating the required area with food-stuffs, owners will be given the alternative, if they so desire, of reducing their labourers' rice ration by one-third, and making arrangements to supply the labourers with some other food, whether imported or locally grown, as a substitute for the one-third by which the ration is reduced.

"5. A period of four months will be allowed within which owners should make the necessary arrangements for the change of diet and thereafter the rice allowed for the estate concerned will be reduced by one-third.

"6. I enclose for the information of the members of your Association 10 copies of a letter that is being addressed by District Officers to all estates in their respective districts.

"7. It is of the utmost importance that the information asked for in these letters as to the estimated monthly requirements of imported food-stuffs should reach the Food Controller at the earliest possible date, and I would ask for the assistance of your Association in impressing upon members the desirability of making their requirements in this matter known to District Officers without delay.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) E. S. Hose,

"*Director of Food Production, F.M.S. & S.S.*

"The Secretary,

"Planters' Association of Malaya,

"Kuala Lumpur."

"Sir,

"It has been decided that, having regard to the continued uncertainty of the prospects of obtaining sufficient supplies of imported rice for the needs of Malaya and to the very high price which has to be paid for such rice, it is necessary to maintain throughout the present year the policy of compulsory food production on estates and mining lands.

"It is, however, recognized that there are many cases in which the cultivation of food-stuffs cannot be undertaken with any reasonable prospect of successful results.

"To meet such cases, Deputy Directors of Food Production are authorized to allow owners or managers of estates or mines, instead of complying with an order to cultivate approved food-stuffs, to reduce the rice ration of their labourers by one-third of the ration sanctioned for the time being. This reduction will be enforced at the expiration of a period of four months from the date of this notice, this period being allowed in order to give ample time for the owner or manager to make arrangements for the change of diet that will be necessary.

"The food-stuffs that are suitable (varying according to conditions and classes of labourers) as partial substitutes for imported rice may be classified as below :

"*Imported food-stuffs.*—Wheat, including flour, bread, chupatties, and mee ; mealie meal.

"*Local food-stuffs.*—Ragi, rice (locally grown), sweet potatoes, maize, various preparations of the tapioca root (notably gaplek, a pamphlet on which has been sent to all District Officers for circulation).

"If you intend to avail yourself of the alternative herein indicated, you are requested on receipt of this notice to fill in the information on the attached form of reply and despatch it to me as early as possible.

"The information as to the average monthly supplies of imported food-stuffs (wheat, flour, or mealie meal) required is not to be regarded as an order for the supply of such food-stuffs. It is required for the guidance of the Food Controller in making his arrangements for the importation of wheat, flour, and mealie meal. It is of the greatest importance that information on this point should be received at the earliest possible date, also that estimates of requirements should not be excessive, as flour and mealie meal do not keep good for a long period in this country and it is therefore desirable that the available stocks should not be greatly in excess of current demands.

"It is estimated that, for the purpose of rationing, 10 lbs. of flour or $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of mealie meal should be given to replace each gantang of rice by which a ration is reduced.

"It should be understood that employers of labour must make their own arrangements for the actual purchase of such rice substitutes as they propose to make use of. The Food Controller can only undertake to ensure that a sufficient supply of the imported food-stuffs mentioned is available.

"I have the honour to be,

"Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

".....

"*District Officer.*

"To

"....."

"SIR,

"I wish to avail myself of the alternative of reducing my labourers' rice ration by one-third.

"I estimate my average labour force during 1920 to be:

"....Indians,
"....Chinese,
"....Javanese,
"....Others.

"The cultivated area of the property under my charge is..... acres.

"The average monthly quantities of imported food-stuffs required by me are as below:

"Wheat ... lbs.
"Flour ... ... lbs.
"Mealie meal ... lbs.

NOTE.—If it is intended to use local food-stuffs in substitution of the one-third rice ration, the following statement should be filled in instead of the foregoing paragraph:

"I intend to supply my labourers with.....in substitution for one-third of their rice ration.

"If it is intended to comply with the requirements of the Food Production Ordinance Enactment by cultivating approved food-stuffs, the opening paragraph of this statement should be cancelled, and the paragraph stating the requirements of imported food-stuffs and the following statement should be filled in:

"I intend to cultivate.....acres with.....name and postal address of estate or mine:

".....
".....
".....
"*Owner or Manager.*

"To

"THE DISTRICT OFFICER,
"....."

Name and postal address of estate or mine:

.....

Mr. HARVEY refers to Mr. Hose's circular letter from which it appeared that if they reduced their ration by one-third they would not have to plant food-stuffs. Mr. Hose urges economy in the use of imported rice, and they were asked to use substitutes, such as flour, ragi, etc. He believes it is impossible to grow food-stuffs on certain kinds of land, and it is a pity that money should be wasted in attempting to cultivate food-stuffs. Hence Government had put forward an alternative. He wishes to impress upon members the necessity for filling in the forms and forwarding them to District Officers as speedily as possible, so as to assist the Director of Food Production.

Mr. GOOCH enquires whether estates which forward requisitions for imported food-stuffs would be guaranteed supplies.

Mr. HARVEY thinks it would be as well to know whether supplies of imported food-stuffs were to be ear-marked for estates, and suggests that the Secretary be instructed to address the Director of Food Production on the matter.

The SECRETARY is instructed accordingly.

The SECRETARY tables a report on the work of the Department of Food Production, dated 31st December, 1919.

6.—RAILWAY MATTERS.

The SECRETARY submits the following correspondence:

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*18th December, 1919.*

"No. G.M.R.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to refer to previous correspondence on the subject of providing constables at certain stations in connection with the storage of rubber, and to inform you that arrangements have been made to provide additional constables at Sungei Gadut, Buloh Kasap, Trolak, and Mambau Stations.

"2. I shall be glad to know whether there are any other stations at which this arrangement is required.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) P. A. ANTHONY,
"*General Manager, F.M.S.R.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*20th December, 1919.*

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. G.M.R., dated the 18th inst., and to thank you for the arrangement made in respect of the stations enumerated therein.

"2. With reference to paragraph 2, I shall be pleased to communicate with you in due course.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*

"THE GENERAL MANAGER,
"F.M.S. RAILWAYS,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*4th January, 1920.*

"SIR,

"With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter No. G.M.R. under date December 18, I have the honour to inform you that railway police constables are required at the following stations:

"Padang Jawa, Kepong, and Sungei Choh, in addition to those already provided for.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*

"THE GENERAL MANAGER,
"F.M.S. RAILWAYS,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR.
"*8th January, 1920.*

"No. G.M.R. 3820/17.

"SIR,

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant. A further reply will be sent in due course.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) F. H. ENGLISH,
"*Acting Secretary to General Manager,*
"*F.M.S. Railways.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

Mr. HARVEY asks whether members of the Association desire railway constables to be provided at other stations. If so, they are asked to communicate with the Secretary.

7.—LICENSING OF COPRA DEALERS.

The SECRETARY submits the following correspondence:

"Resolution forwarded by the Lower Perak District Planters' Association on 13th December, 1919:

"That this Association ask the Government to assist coconut planters by introducing legislation to enforce the licensing of copra dealers in the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States on the same lines as rubber dealers."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*19th November, 1919.*

"SIR,

"I have the honour to forward to you the following resolution which was passed at the ordinary meeting of this Association held on the 27th ultimo:

> "That this Association ask the Government to assist coconut planters by introducing legislation to enforce the licensing of copra dealers in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States on the same lines as rubber dealers."

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*

"LETTER ADDRESSED TO
"THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, S.S.,
"SINGAPORE,
AND
"THE UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, F.M.S.,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"No. 10174/1919.

"COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
"SINGAPORE,
"*4th December, 1919.*

"SIR,

"With reference to your letter of 19th November, 1919 forwarding copy of a resolution passed by your Association on 27th October, to the effect that the licensing of copra dealers should be enforced by law in the same way as the licensing of rubber dealers, I am directed to inform you that, after due consideration of the suggestion, Government can see no adequate grounds for the introduction of such legislation.

"2. I am to point out that no reasons are set forth in your letter under reply.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) G. L. HAM,
"*for Acting Colonial Secretary,*
"*Straits Settlements.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*5th December, 1919.*

"LICENSING OF COPRA DEALERS.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 10174/1919, dated yesterday, informing me that the Government can see no adequate grounds for the introduction of legislation on this matter.

"2. With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter under reply, I beg to forward for your information a copy of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of this Association held on 27th October last, and would invite your attention to subject 8, pages 20 and 21 thereof.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,

"*Secretary.*

"THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, S.S.,

"SINGAPORE."

"KUALA LUMPUR,

"*20th November, 1919.*

"SUBJECT.

"Resolution passed at the meeting regarding the licensing of copra dealers in the Federated Malay States on the same lines as rubber dealers.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 19th November, 1919, on the subject stated above.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) A. VLIELAND,

"*for Ag. Under Secretary to Government, F.M.S.*

"THE SECRETARY,

"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,

"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,

"*8th December, 1919.*

"SIR,

"Further to my letter, dated the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to forward for your information a copy of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of this Association held on 27th October last, and to invite your attention to pages 20 and 21 thereof.

"I have, etc.,

"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,

"*Secretary.*

"THE UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

"FEDERATED MALAY STATES,

"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*5th January, 1920.*

"LICENSING OF COPRA DEALERS.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to request the favour of a reply to my letters, dated 19th November and 8th December, 1919.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*

"THE UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
"FEDERATED MALAY STATES,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*30th December, 1919.*

"SIR (S),

"I have to inform you that the Straits Settlements Government can see no adequate grounds for the introduction of legislation for the licensing of copra dealers.

"In view of the attitude of the Straits Settlement Government, it is conceivable that the Federated Malay States Government—from whom no reply to the Planters' Association of Malaya resolution on this subject has yet been received—will also decline to introduce the legislation asked for. The Standing Committee therefore desire all District Planters' Associations, *in whose districts coconuts are cultivated*, to press this very important matter, and suggest that it be brought to the notice of District Officers who might be asked to approach the Resident of their State.

"Believe me, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*

"TO ALL CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS."

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*12th January, 1920.*

No. C. S. O. 6979/1919.

"SIR,

"I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 5th January, 1920, on the subject of the licensing of copra dealers, and to inform you that your letters of 19th November and 18th December, 1919, are under consideration.

"I have, etc.,
"(Sd.) T. P. COE,
"*for Ag. Under Secretary, F.M.S.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

"SINGAPORE,
"*16th January, 1920.*

"No. 10174/1919.

"SIR,

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th ultimo regarding the proposed licensing of copra dealers.

"2. The Government has given this matter full consideration and can find no reason to alter the view expressed in my letter of the 4th ultimo.

"(Sd.) E. C. H. WOLFF,
"*for Ag. Colonial Secretary,*
"*Straits Settlements.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA,
"KUALA LUMPUR."

Mr. HARVEY refers to the Straits Settlements Government's refusal to introduce the legislation asked for, while the Federated Malay States Government has replied to the effect that the matter is still under consideration. The Standing Committee suggested that detailed information of thefts should be collected and he calls upon the Secretary to read the particulars obtained.

The SECRETARY reads the following statements of losses owing to theft:

ESTATE "A."

	Pkls.	Kts.
Total amount despatched from this estate	6,720	10
Total amount sold	6,370	33
Total loss	349	77
Allow 4 per cent. fair loss through evaporation	268	80
Total loss on account of theft	80	97

At the average selling price for the year $15.52 a dead loss through stealing of $1,256.65 to this estate.

ESTATE "B."

	Pkls.	Kts.
Total amount despatched from this estate	2,881	91
Total amount sold	2,601	28
Total Loss	28	63
Allow 4 per cent. fair loss through evaporation	115	32
Total loss on account of theft	165	31

At the average selling price for the year $17.33 a dead loss through stealing of $2,864.82 to this estate.

ESTATE "C."

	Pkls.	Kts.
Total amount despatched from this estate to date	1,726	73
Total amount sold	1,566	51
Total loss	160	22
Allow 4 per cent. fair loss through evaporation	69	07
Total loss on account of theft	91	15

At the average selling price for the year $18.80 a dead loss through stealing of $1,713.62 to this estate.

ESTATE "D."

	Pkls.	Kts.
Total amount despatched from this estate	267	56
Total amount sold	258	45
Total loss	9	11
Allow 4 per cent. loss through evaporation	0	36
Total loss on account of theft	8	75
Total ...	$5,300.77	

At the average selling price for the year $20.51 per pikul, a dead loss through stealing of $179.46 to this estate.

ESTATE "E."

	Pkls.	Kts.
Total amount despatched from this estate	230	12
Total amount sold	225	52
Total loss	4	60
Allow 4 per cent. fair loss through evaporation	0	18
Total loss on account of theft	4	42
Total ...	$4,382.64	

At the average price for the year ... $19.43 per pikul, a dead loss through stealing of $85.88 to this estate.

ESTATE "F."

	Pkls.	Kts.
Total amount despatched from this estate	10,246	00
Total amount sold	9,627	00
Total loss	619	00
Allow 4 per cent. fair loss through evaporation	409	84
Total loss on account of theft	209	16

At the average price for the year $20 per pikul, a dead loss through stealing of $4,180 to this estate.

ESTATE "G."

ACCOUNT OF COPRA SHIPMENT FROM 1ST JULY TO 21ST DECEMBER, 1919.

Shipment.	Bags.	Port Swettenham Weight.	Singapore Weight.	Loss in Weight.	Per cent. of Weight.	Price Obtained.
A.	90	69.88	67.51	2.37	3.39	21.85
B.	140	110.48	107.25	3.23	2.92	21.50
C.	90	75.82	73.12	2.70	3.56	21.00
D.	81	70.00	69.24	.76	1.08	20.75
E.	140	118.58	111.67	6.91	5.83	19.50
F.	90	76.51	74.29	2.22	2.90	19.50
G.	140	121.11	114.47	6.64	5.48	19.50
H. }	90	198.21	188.28	9.93	5.01	19.75
I. }	140					
J.	184	147.97	144.26	3.71	2.50	18.00
K.	140	125.57	117.60	7.97	6.34	18.45
L.	90	81.82	78.02	3.80	4.64	19.00
M.	110	127.66	120.60	7.06	5.76	19.75
N.	200	218.87	204.43	14.44	6.59	19.75
O.	127	129.44	121.59	7.85	6.06	19.75
P.	134	129.08	121.81	7.27	5.63	22.70
Q.	140	139.00	137.22	1.78	1.28	24.00
R.	136	143.31	136.30	7.01	4.89	26.25
S.	102	102.33	97.49	4.84	4.27	27.00
	2,364	2,185.64	2,085.15	100.49	4.51	

Mr. HARVEY points out that severe losses have been sustained by coconut planters who have had a difficult time in the past, and it seems hard that just when they were beginning to obtain decent prices for their copra they should suffer such enormous losses by theft which legislation would no doubt reduce to a minimum. He does not think that the matter should be allowed to remain as it is and suggests that the particulars submitted by the Secretary be forwarded to the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlement Governments.

The SECRETARY is instructed accordingly.

8.—RECONSTITUTION OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA.

Mr. HARVEY would like to give a brief sketch of the history of the movement to reconstitute the Planters' Association of Malaya before this important and vital subject is discussed.

He says the idea emanated from Perak, whence he believes all really good things and sound reforms emanate. It arose as a result

of four resolutions which were passed by the Central Perak Planters' Association to the effect that:

(*a*) The Standing Committee be more representative and be granted more executive power.

(*b*) The Committee be elected by the delegates of each District Planters' Association.

(*c*) The Committee be only called together to transact business affecting each associated District Planters' Association.

(*d*) And there be fewer delegate meetings.

These resolutions were discussed by the Standing Committee, and subsequently Mr. Kennedy propounded his scheme and submitted another.

There are one or two points upon which he has good reasons to believe there is a lot of misunderstanding.

First, it is suggested that the Planters' Association of Malaya should be relieved of a lot of the work it does. He is sure that the Standing Committee have no desire to be relieved of work. In fact they want more work; but they want work of greater importance than they are frequently called upon to perform. They desire to have referred to them all questions relating to the larger issues of policy, and the big and vital questions affecting the great rubber industry. But to accomplish all this, the Standing Committee will have to be given power. As he pointed out in his memorandum, the Standing Committee is a consultative, not a managing Committee. Beyond being able to control the funds of the Association, the Standing Committee is without any executive power at all, and its status, therefore, is somewhat anomalous and non-descript. Let us suppose that a critical situation develops. It may be an urgent matter requiring immediate decision. But nothing can be done until the next ordinary meeting of delegates, and so valuable time is lost as well as opportunity. By the time the Planters' Association of Malaya meets, it may be too late, and often chances are lost and nothing is done.

Secondly, it was suggested that District Planters' Associations again and again refer matters of only minor importance to the Planters' Association of Malaya—matters which are purely local and which are of little interest to the Planters' Association of Malaya as the representative body of planting interests of the whole country. Such matters, he thinks, might often be dealt with by District Planters' Associations, and especially is this so in the earlier stages of negotiations. There is no suggestion that the Planters' Association of Malaya should cease to co-operate with its affiliated bodies. Indeed, closer co-operation is most urgently called for, and earnestly desired. The Planters' Association of Malaya needs, more and more, the active participation in all its affairs of as many delegates and members as possible. The Constituent Association, or the District Planters' Association, is the unit of organization of the Planters' Association of Malaya, and everything should be done by the Standing Committee to work with District Planters' Associations and to co-operate with them whenever practicable.

Thirdly, it is supposed that the Standing Committee have insinuated that District Planters' Associations have shirked or have neglected to fulfil their duties. He wishes to take this opportunity of saying that this supposition is absolutely without foundation. The Standing Committee have not suggested anything of the kind. In fact it might be said that the Standing Committee have frequently acted as if they were a secret conclave, bureau or caucus, and have kept District Planters' Association's too much in the dark. What he should like to see is an intelligible precis of every Standing Committee meeting forwarded to each District Planters' Association.

The Planters' Association of Malaya, as a body, cannot disregard the work done by its units of organization, and cannot speak too highly of, or be too grateful for, the arduous and thankless work that is done by Committees of District Planters' Associations and particularly by Honorary Secretaries.

Unfortunately it is, he believes, the experience of the majority of Honorary Secretaries of District Planters' Associations that a large number of members remain passive units, whose only participation in the common work is the payment of their contributions, and even these are often delayed. This, he supposes, is not surprising, having regard to the fact that the apathy of some planters is a bye-word and proverbial. What District Planters' Associations need is the active participation of the ordinary rank and file members.

His own idea is that District Planters' Associations should determine the lesser and purely local issues of policy; but all movements, when practicable, should be co-ordinated and all action co-operative. The governing body of the Planters' Association of Malaya should determine the large interests of policy, and deal with matters which are sent up by District Planters' Associations who have not been able to obtain satisfactory solutions of problems with local authorities, or others. Full publicity should always be given to the deliberations of the governing body, be it the Standing Committee or a Council. Whether it is resolved that the Planters' Association of Malaya shall be reconstituted, or whether it is decided to reconstruct it upon the scheme outlined by Mr. Kennedy or upon the lines adopted by the conference of Perak District Planters' Associations, or in the manner suggested in his memorandum, he is convinced that the Standing Committee or Council, whichever it is to be, should be more or less federal in its structure. It should be given executive power to administer the affairs and transact the business of the Association, and, in co-operation with District Planters' Associations all linked up with it, it would then be enabled to perform its functions as an effective Federal governing body for advancing, promoting, and representing the planting interests of the whole of Malaya.

Mr. KENNEDY states that an impression is abroad that his scheme was put forward against Mr. Harvey's, or that Mr. Harvey's was against his. He desires to dispose of any such idea. He has the general welfare of the Association at heart and cares very little whether his scheme is adopted or not, so long as the question of reconstruction is seriously discussed and considered by them. He thinks it might be advisable to hold a special meeting of the Association to decide the matter.

Mr. GRABURN says his District Planters' Association had come to the conclusion that the Standing Committee had quite a lot of unnecessary work to do and that that was the reason why it is considered necessary to reconstruct the Planters' Association of Malaya. In view however of Mr. Harvey's statement that the Standing Committee were prepared to do even more work than they had done, the question arose whether reconstruction of any kind was necessary. He thinks there are two things to be borne in mind. One is that the efficiency of the Planters' Association of Malaya should not be impaired, and the other is that the responsibility of District Planters' Associations to the parent body should be maintained. The Perak planters in conference had put forward a scheme which is not a new scheme but merely a modification of Mr. Kennedy's scheme, which also embodies the better parts of Mr. Harvey's suggestions. If District Planters' Associations form themselves into State Councils and send their delegates to the Planters' Association of Malaya matters would be thrashed out thoroughly before the Association discussed them. He suggests that the Secretary be called upon to read the Perak District Planters' Association's Conference scheme.

The SECRETARY reads the following:

Suggestions for re-organizing the work of the Planters' Association of Malaya favoured by the special conference of representatives of the District Planters' Associations of Perak held in Ipoh on 10th January, 1920.

1. Membership shall consist as at present by District Planters' Associations being affiliated to the Planters' Association of Malaya on the present basis of subscription, or similar basis.

2. The business of the Association shall be transacted by a Council which shall consist of the following representatives:

Perak, Province Wellesley and Dindings ...	6
Selangor	8
Negri Sembilan	2
Johore	2
Kelantan	1
Kedah	1
Pahang	1

making 21 members of Council.

3. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Association shall be Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the Council, and shall be elected from among members of Council by the members of the Association by the annual general meeting.

4. The Council would be elected as follows:

Each District Planters' Association would elect its own representatives.

5. The Council may meet together, adjourn, and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit, and may determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of the business.

6. Committees would be appointed by the Council who would deal with important matters as, say, labour, immigration, medical matters, and scientific research, but recommendations or decisions made by such Committees would have to be ratified or confirmed by the Council.

7. District Planters' Associations desirous of having matters dealt with by the Council could send in their requests, and in the event of its being expedient the Council may invite a District Planters' Association to send a representative to attend a meeting of meetings of the Council to confer with the Council in connection with the business to be considered.

8. Two general meetings would be held each year—

(*a*) The annual general meeting to receive a report of the Council's work, accounts for the year, to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and to declare elected a Council for the ensuing year. This meeting would be held in April.

(*b*) A half-yearly meeting to be held in October to receive the Council's Report of work done during the previous six months, and to afford members of the Association an opportunity of asking questions with regard to the work done, or to criticise the work of the Council.

9. Emergency ordinary meetings shall be convened at any other time upon a requisition in writing signed by twelve members of the Association, or, if formed, State Councils.

10. On the motion of Mr. H. de H. Smith of Lower Perak District Planters' Association and Mr. C. B. Graburn (representing Batang Padang District Planters' Association), the following resolution was carried :

"That the District Planters' Associations in conference here are in favour of forming State Councils to discuss matters of interest which affect that particular State, thereby avoiding reference to the Planters' Association of Malaya of matters which can be dealt with locally."

Mr. Graburn remarks that the present system has stood the test of a great number of years, and he suggests that the Chairman should put the question whether or not the meeting considers reconstitution either necessary or advisable.

Mr. Jeavons agrees with Mr. Graburn that reconstitution is unnecessary in the circumstances. He is in favour of giving more power to the Standing Committee.

Mr. Harvey hopes he will be doing right if he ascertains the sense of the meeting in the manner suggested. He puts the motion proposed by Mr. Graburn and seconded by Mr. Jeavons, whether reconstitution is either necessary or advisable, and it is negatived by a large majority.

Mr. Harvey thinks they are now in a parodoxical position. Reconstitution really meant that the Standing Committee should be given more power in the management of the affairs of the Association, and he does not understand Mr. Jeavons who claims to be in favour of the Standing Committee being given more power and yet against

reconstituting the Association. He hopes the meeting will not conclude without coming to a decision on the matter. Reconstruction means re-organization of the Association, and of course an alteration of its rules. An alteration of the rules of the Association as suggested almost amounts to reconstitution.

Mr. JEAVONS says since this question was first raised pages and pages of printed matter had been circulated giving expressions to opinions on reconstitution, yet District Planters' Associations did not yet know whether they wanted it or not. It was with a view to finding out whether the Association itself was in favour of reconstitution or not that he had seconded Mr. Graburn's resolution. If it could be proposed that the rules be altered in order to give the Standing Committee more power he would support any such proposition.

Mr. QUARTLEY observes that Mr. Jeavons thinks it might be advisable to alter the rules of the Association in order to give the Standing Committee more power.

Mr. JEAVONS says if by reconstitution it was intended to wipe out the Planters' Association of Malaya by State Councils and such other cumbersome organizations he is against it being done. He deprecates any method by which District Planters' Associations will be made ineffective. He points out that when matters come up for discussion before the Planters' Association of Malaya expressions of opinion from all parts of the Peninsula are given, and thinks that such discussions should be continued and encouraged. He gives notice of a motion for the alteration of the rules with reference to the powers of the Standing Committee.

Mr. HARVEY thinks it will be necessary to alter rule 23 in that case. He suggests District Planters' Associations should consider the matter again with a view to the revision of rules. Due notice of such revision should be given in time for the matter to be discussed at the annual general meeting which will be held in April. The period which will elapse between now and then should allow plenty of time for District Planters' Associations carefully to consider and discuss the matter.

He hopes the meeting will realize that he has been placed in a somewhat difficult position. He urges all to try and pull together. He is certain that if the time is not ripe for reconstitution it would be a great mistake to go on with any of the schemes and thereby cause dissension. He thinks the present is a critical time. A large number of the more senior planters are leaving the country and, the younger generation is coming along, and he would be sorry to think that he had been instrumental in leaving the Planters' Association of Malaya in an unsatisfactory position. He would take this opportunity of announcing his departure in April and refers with regret to the fact that Mr. Kennedy will also be going home in April. He mentions this because it will be necessary for District Planters' Associations to nominate candidates for the Chair and Vice-Chair for the year 1920-21.

Mr. QUARTLEY suggests that when the Secretary circularizes District Planters' Associations on the question of the revision of rules, a copy of the rules should be forwarded to the Honorary Secretaries to Constituent Associations.

9.—AGENDA.

The SECRETARY submits the following correspondence:

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*7th November, 1919.*

"CIRCULAR LETTER TO ALL CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS.

"DEAR SIR(S),

"In the event of your giving notice of any business or motion to be included in the agenda of forthcoming meetings of this Association, you are asked to be good enough to forward for publication sufficient particulars and information about the subject in order to enable members of constituent bodies to consider the matter and instruct their delegates.

"Your co-operation will be appreciated.

"Believe me, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*"

"KUALA LUMPUR,
"*5th January, 1920.*

"CIRCULAR LETTER TO ALL CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS.

"DEAR SIR(S),

"Under No. 11 (i) of the rules of the Association, not less than 14 days notice of ordinary meetings shall be given.

"As the matter for the agenda of such meetings is sent to the printers *at least* seven days in advance, it is necessary that notice of any resolution or other business shall reach this office 21 days before the date of ordinary meetings.

"Believe me, etc.,
"(Sd.) C. WARD-JACKSON,
"*Secretary.*"

10.—DISTRICT NURSES.

Mr. HARVEY refers to a letter he has received from Mr. Tivy, Honorary Secretary of the Ulu Selangor District Planters' Association which puts forward a suggestion that Government be asked to increase the staffs of nurses in the existing European hospitals in order to provide possibly 10 to 15 nurses available for employment on private cases. He suggests that the Secretary be instructed to circularize District Associations and to obtain information regarding the European population of men, women and children, on estates. He does not think that Government have any idea of the large number of Europeans, especially women, on estates; and if figures were available at their next meeting they would then be able more intelligently to go into the matter. At present there were practically no arrangements for nursing apart from the Government hospitals.

It is agreed that the Secretary shall collect the information as suggested.

11.—GENERAL.

The SECRETARY refers to a resolution which was passed at the Planters' Association of Malaya meeting held in August last apologizing for the publication of resolution passed by the Borneo Chamber of Commerce regarding the condition of Government hospitals in the State of Borneo, and says he has received the following letter forwarded by the Rubber Growers' Association:

"THE BRITISH NORTH BORNEO COMPANY,
"37, THREADNEEDLE STREET,
"LONDON, E.C. 2,
"*10th October, 1919.*

"DEAR SIR,

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant and its enclosures, regarding the resolution of the West Coast branch of the North Borneo Chamber of Commerce, condemning the Government hospital and quarantine arrangements in the Protectorate.

"2. I am to express the Court's appreciation of the action taken in this matter by your Association and by the Planters' Association of Malaya.

"Yours faithfully,
"(Sd.) HARRINGTON FORBES,
"*Secretary.*

"THE SECRETARY,
"RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION,
"38, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C. 3."

The SECRETARY states that a further contribution of $750 has been forwarded by the Rubber Growers' Association towards the purse presented to Mr. Zacharias, the total amount of which is now $2,751.01.

On the motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Gooch, it is decided to hold the next meeting of the Association, which shall be the annual general meeting, about the middle of April next.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminates at 12.45 p.m.

C. WARD-JACKSON,
Secretary.

APPENDIX A.

Suggestions for re-organizing the work of the Planters' Association of Malaya by J. W. Kennedy (as amended by the Standing Committee at a meeting held on October, 1919:

1. Membership shall consist as at present by District Planters' Associations being affiliated to the Planters' Association of Malaya on the present basis of subscription, or similar basis.

2. The business of the Association shall be transacted by a Council which shall consist of the following representatives:

Perak, Province Wellesley and Dindings ...	6
Selangor	4
Negri Sembilan	4
Johore	2
Kelantan	1
Kedah	1
Pahang	1

making 19 members of Council, to whom would be given powers to co-opt additional members of Council, provided always that the total number of members of Council shall not exceed 30.

3. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Association shall be Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the Council, and shall be elected from among members of Council by the members of the Association at the annual general meeting.

4. The Council would be elected as follows:

(*a*) Each District Planters' Association would receive from the Secretary at a specified date before the annual general meeting nomination papers, the number of which would correspond with the number of votes to which each District Planters' Association was entitled.

(*b*) Each District Planters' Association would then fill in its nomination papers and would be confined to nominating members of Council from its own particular State. The gentlemen showing the greatest number of nominations would be elected to the Council and the result declared at the annual general meeting.

5. The Council would meet quarterly, or, as and when required, at centres to be decided by the Council.

6. Committees would be appointed by the Council who would deal with important matters as, say, Labour, Immigration, Medical matters, and Scientific Research; but recommendations or decisions made by such Committees would have to be ratified or confirmed by the Council.

7. District Planters' Associations desirous of having matters dealt with by the Council could send in their requests; and in the event of its being deemed expedient, the Council may invite a District Planters' Association to send a representative to attend a meeting or meetings of the Council to confer with the Council in connection with the business to be considered.

8. Two general meetings would be held each year.

(*a*) The annual general meeting to receive a report of the Council's work, accounts for the year, to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman and to declare elected a Council for the ensuing year.

(*b*) A half-yearly meeting to receive the Council's report of work done during the preceding six months, and to afford members of the Association an opportunity of asking questions with regard to the work done, or, to criticize the work of the Council.

Appendix B.

Draft scheme for the reconstitution of the Planters' Association of Malaya by the Hon. Mr. F. G. Harvey:

Heretofore the Planters' Association of Malaya has successfully pursued the objects for which it was founded; but it would appear that the members of the Association, probably affected by the spirit abroad in these days of reconstruction, feel that it should be reconstituted with a view to making it a more efficient body.

It is suggested by Messrs. J. W. Kennedy and G. Gordon-Brown that this object will be achieved by appointing a governing body to whom the Association should delegate absolute powers to manage its business. Further, they suggest that two delegate meetings only should be held during each year at intervals of six months.

I, too, am of opinion that reconstitution and reorganization might benefit the Association; but I do not think that facts should be lost sight of that its vitality and its present strong position in the world of planting politics are due largely to the personal interest that is taken in the management of its affairs by the individual delegates (who are from time to time appointed by Constituent Associations) in ordinary meetings which are held every alternate month.

At present, the Association itself is a sort of Council and is its own executive. It has always been a boast that the delegates and members themselves control the Association and transact its business; and that the Standing Committee is merely a consultative, not a managing, Committee. In fact, the only power that is vested in the Standing Committee is the control of the funds of the Association.

If the Planters' Association of Malaya at the next annual meeting, or at a special general meeting, should decide to revise its constitution so as to transact its chief business through a small body,

whose meetings are not to be reported, I would suggest that it seek and obtain statutory powers to enable it to make so radical and drastic a change.

It could fall into line with such bodies as the United Planters' Association of Southern India (every Association affiliated to which is an incorporated body), the Planters' Association of Ceylon; the Rubber Growers' Association; the Rubber Producers' Association of Malaya, and the Planters' Benevolent Funds of Ceylon and of Malaya, each of which is a body incorporated by special Enactment or Ordinance, or under certain Companies Acts or Enactments.

I do not suggest that the Planters' Association of Malaya should become incorporated under the Companies Enactment of 1917 by filing a memorandum and articles of Association as a company limited by guarantee and not having a capital divided into shares, and as an Association not for profit. It should follow the procedure adopted by the Planters' Association of Ceylon and the Planters' Benevolent Fund of Malaya and become incorporated by a special enabling Bill, which, no doubt, could easily and at small cost be piloted through the Federal Council.

The questions which naturally occur to one are, "Is it either necessary or advisable to become incorporated by law to effect the proposed changes in constitution?" and, "What particular advantages are bestowed by incorporation?"

I do not think it is necessary to incorporate the Planters' Association of Malaya, but I certainly think that it is eminently desirable to do so, since to appoint and give to a small executive body plenary powers to conduct, in camera, the principal business of the Association, is a very material alteration of its constitution which amounts almost to a negation of the fundamental principles by which it has been guided since its inception.

The advantages of incorporation are, briefly, that the Association would, on the passing of an enabling Bill, secure a defined legal status with statutory powers. It would become a corporate body, or legal entity, quite distinct from the whole body of members who compose it. It would be able to exercise, with full legal authority, the particular powers given to it in and by virtue of its incorporating Enactment and in matters that arise within its province as covered by that Enactment. It would secure perpetual succession, which means that its existence would be constantly maintained by the succession of new individuals in the place of those who die or are removed.

Appendix A hereof is a draft Bill for incorporating the Planters' Association of Malaya. It is adapted from the Ordinance by which the Planters' Association of Ceylon is incorporated. If it is the wish of members of the Planters' Association of Malaya to seek statutory powers and to reconstitute it on these lines, the draft Bill would, I believe, give effect to that intention.

Appendix B hereof is a draft of what I think would be suitable by-laws under section 7 of the Bill.

Obviously both these appendices, which are merely in draft form, might be subjected to certain alterations and emendations.

Appendix A.

DRAFT OF AN ENACTMENT TO INCORPORATE THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA.

Draft of an Enactment to incorporate the Planters' Association of Malaya.

Whereas the Planters' Association of Malaya (hereinafter referred to as "The Association") has applied for the privileges of incorporation: And Whereas it is expedient and for the public good that such application be granted:

It is hereby enacted by the Rulers of the Federated Malay States in Council as follows:

1. This Enactment may be cited for all purposes as "The Planters' Association of Malaya Enactment, 19 ."

2. From and after the passing of this Enactment, the present Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Standing Committee of the Association, and such and so many persons or Constituent Associations as now are members of the Association or shall hereafter be admitted members of the corporation hereby constituted, shall be a corporation with limited liability in manner hereinafter provided, with perpetual succession and a common seal under the style and name of "The Planters' Association of Malaya," and by that name shall and may sue and be sued in all Courts.

3. The general objects for which the corporation is constituted are hereby declared to be to promote, foster, and protect the planting industry of Malaya.

4. The affairs of the corporation shall be administered, subject to the by-laws for the time being of the corporation as hereinafter provided, by a Council to be elected in accordance with the by-laws for the time being of the corporation.

5. The Committee shall cause a register to be kept in which every person or Constituent Association which, at the date of the passing of this Enactment, is a member of the Association, and every person or Constituent Association thereafter duly admitted a member of the corporation hereby constituted shall have his or its name inscribed.

6. A general meeting of the Association shall be held in the month of April in every year. Such meeting shall be called the annual general meeting. All other general meetings which shall be held as provided for in the by-laws shall be called ordinary meetings.

In the month of October in every year an ordinary meeting shall be held.

7. It shall be lawful for the corporation from time to time, at any annual general meeting of the members, and by a majority of votes, to make, alter, or revoke such by-laws as it may deem expedient for the management of the affairs of the corporation and the accomplishment of its objects.

Any by-laws made under this section shall be binding at all times upon the members for the time being of the corporation.

8. On the coming into operation of this Enactment all and every property belonging to the Association, whether held in the name of the Association or in the name or names of any person or persons in trust for the Association, shall be and the same is hereby vested in the corporation hereby constituted, and the same, together with all after-acquired property, movable or immovable, and all subscriptions, contributions, donations, amounts of loans and advances received or to be received, shall be held by the said corporation for the purposes of this Enactment and subject to the by-laws for the time being of the said corporation.

9. All debts and liabilities of the Association existing at the time of the coming into operation of this Enactment shall be paid by the corporation hereby constituted, and all debts due to, and subscriptions and contributions payable to the Association shall be paid to the corporation for the purposes of this Enactment.

10. The seal of the corporation shall not be fixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two members of the Council, who shall sign their names to the instrument in token of their presence, and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.

11. The corporation shall be capable in law to take and hold any property, moveable or immovable, which may become vested in it by virtue of any purchase, grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise, whether absolutely or in trust—

(*a*) For the collective benefit of the members of the corporation, or of the members of any Constituent Association, the whole of whose members are members of the corporation; or

(*b*) For any object in which the members of the corporation or of such Constituent Association are interested; or

(*c*) For the benefit of any local community or body of persons which is wholly or mainly composed of members of the corporation;

and all such property shall be held by the corporation for the purpose of this Enactment and subject to the by-laws for the time being of the said corporation, with full power (subject to any trusts attaching to any such property and the law regulating such trusts) to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the same.

LIMIT OF LIABILITY OF MEMBERS.

12. The liability of each member of the Association shall be limited to the transactions of the Association which shall have occurred during the period of his membership, and shall in no case exceed the sum of $25 over and above such annual subscriptions as may be due from such member to the Association; and such limitation of liability shall include any contribution that such member may be called upon to make under the by-laws of the Association to meet any deficit in the annual expenses of the Association.

APPENDIX B.

DRAFT BY-LAWS.

1. The registered office of the Association shall be at Kuala Lumpur.

2. The Association shall consist of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the year and of Constituent Associations.

3. The Association shall have power to admit to membership any existing Association of Planters in the Malay Peninsula and any such Association that may be established, such bodies shall thereupon become Constituent Associations and shall be entitled to the same benefits and be subject to the same obligations as the other Constituent Associations of the Planters' Association of Malaya. Associations applying for membership must send a written application for election in such form as the Council may prescribe; and must agree to be bound by the provisions of the incorporating Enactment and the by-laws from time to time in force.

4. Each Constituent Association shall register with the Secretary, not later than March 15th each year, all data required for calculating the amount of subscriptions due to the Association for the ensuing year.

5. The annual contribution from each Constituent Association shall be assessed on such basis as may be determined once a year at the annual general meeting, and shall become due and payable on election and thereafter on the 1st day of May in every year, and no Constituent Association shall have the right of voting or otherwise enjoy and of the privileges of the Association until such annual subscription shall have been paid.

6. At general meetings and ordinary meetings each Constituent Association shall be represented by one delegate for every 10,000 or part thereof of the planted acres represented by its members, and such delegates shall have one vote.

7. The annual general meetings of the Association shall be held in the month of April in every year.

8. An ordinary meeting shall be held in the month of October in every year.

9. Emergency ordinary meetings shall be convened at any other time upon a requisition in writing signed by 12 members of the Association (or upon a requisition in writing made by three Constituent Associations).

10. At such annual general and ordinary meetings ten delegates present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum.

11. The following notices of meetings shall be given:

(i) In the case of annual and ordinary meetings not less than 14 days by letter;

(ii) In the case of emergency ordinary meetings not less than seven days by telegram.

12. Candidates for the Chair and Vice-Chair must be nominated by a Constituent Association which shall forward such nomination to the Secretary not later than the 15th of March.

13. The names of candidates duly nominated shall be placed on the agenda for the annual general meeting and only such candidates shall be eligible. Provided that should no candidate have been nominated as aforesaid the annual general meeting shall elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

14. Voting for the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be by voting papers issued at least 15 days before the annual general meeting to all Constituent Associations in accordance with the number of their members.

15. The Chairman of the Association shall hold office for one year only, but shall be eligible for re-election.

16. The affairs of the Association shall be administered by a Council which shall be composed as follows :

Every Constituent Association shall appoint one representative with one additional representative when the membership of such Constituent Association consists of 30 members, and another additional representative for every further 30 members.

17. The Council shall hold office from the date of their election until the next following annual general meeting of the Association. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and in the case of any casual vacancy happening among members of Council, the Council may make an interim appointment until the following annual general meeting.

18. The Council may meet together, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit, and may determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business.

19. The Council may delegate any of their powers to Committees.

20. The Council shall have power to elect as honorary members such persons as they shall think fit ; but such persons shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Association. Notice of any proposal for the admission of an honorary member, together with the names of the proposer and seconder of such honorary member, shall be given to the Secretary of the Association at least a fortnight previous to the meeting at which the election of such honorary member shall take place, and the Secretary shall put on the agenda for such meeting the name and address of such person and the names of the proposer and seconder.

21. All members who shall have served the office of Chairman of the Association for at least one year shall *ipso facto* become honorary members of the Association.

22. An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the form and to the effect following:

THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA.

I, the undersigned....., a delegate to the Planters' Association of Malaya do hereby appoint..... ....., a member of the Planters' Association of Malaya to be my proxy, to vote and act for me at the meeting which is to be held on the.....day of.....19..... and at every adjournment thereof

Signature.....

Dated this.....day of.....19.....

A proxy is available for one meeting only, and requires a three-cent stamp which must be cancelled. It shall be deposited at the office of the Association at least three days before the time for holding the meeting.

NOTE TO APPENDIX B.

It is, I think, most important that each Constituent Association should have direct representation upon the Council of the Association. Clause 16 of these by-laws provides for this.

There are 19 Associations affiliated to the Planters' Association of Malaya: In Selangor eight; Perak and Province Wellesley five; Negri Sembilan two; Pahang one; Johore one; Kedah one; and Kelantan one.

Under the provisions of clause 16, the Council would consist of 26 members and would be made up as follows:

From Perak 5; Selangor 10; Negri Sembilan 4; Pahang 1; Province Wellesley (M.P.A.A.) 2; Johore 2; Kedah 1 and Kelantan 1.

F. G. H.

Abstract of Meteorological Readings in the various Districts of Malaya for the month of October, 1919.

District.	Mean Barometrical Pressure at 32° Fah.	Maximum in Sun.	Temperature.				Hygrometer.				Prevailing Direction of Winds.	Total Rainfall.	Greatest Rainfall during 24 hours.
			Mean Dry Bulb.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Vapour Tension.	Dew Point.	Humidity.			
Kelantan, Kota Bahru	...	144.35	81.3	90.38	74.03	16.35	76.7	.829	73.6	77.	...	12.37	1.98
Pahang, Kuala Lipis	...	...	79.74	89.90	70.32	19.58	75.44	...	...	...	...	10.71	2.30
Johore, Johore Bahru	...	...	...	87.43	73.77	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.96	2.80
Singapore, Kandang Kerbau ...	29.828	158.0	83.0	88.0	75.1	...	77.9	.882	...	79.	Calm.	9.37	2.23
Malacca, Durian Daun	29.846	141.0	81.0	87.0	73.0	14.0	77.0	.913	...	83.	W.	15.84	3.18
Negri Sembilan, Seremban ...	...	151.8	84.3	88.8	73.1	15.7	79.8	.880	64.1	73.8	S.W.	10.10	3.42
,, Kuala Pilah ...	...	147.9	79.7	89.8	...	...	77.9	.919	77.2	84.9	...	7.55	1.88
,, Port Dickson...	...	110.2	81.7	88.0	74.3	13.7	77.3	.854	74.4	79.8	...	17.81	3.45
Selangor, Kuala Lumpur ...	29.792	148.8	81.0	90.6	72.4	18.2	76.2	.823	73.5	78.	Calm.	9.96	1.77
,, Klang	...	...	80.4	83.9	75.0	8.9	76.1	...	...	...	...	3.29	.56
,, Kuala Selangor ...	...	...	...	87.1	74.3	12.8	...	...	...	...	...	12.99	3.38
,, Rawang	...	...	...	90.8	72.8	18.0	...	...	...	...	...	7.66	1.63
Perak, Telok Anson	...	...	81.06	91.0	70.0	21.0	77.66	.903	...	87.	...	5.11	2.04
,, Ipoh	...	...	81.07	92.0	73.0	19.0	76.91	.871	74.97	82.	...	11.88	1.73
,, Taiping	...	109.0	80.77	92.0	70.0	22.0	77.25	.888	...	85.	...	13.89	1.77
,, The Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48.46	5.59
,, Parit Buntar	...	...	81.10	91.0	71.0	20.0	77.22	.885	...	85.	...	13.97	1.96
Penang, Georgetown	29.160	146.0	81.16	87.9	72.4	15.5	77.8	.903	69.8	85.	N.W.	16.22	2.28
Kedah, Alor Star	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.90	2.10
Perlis, Kangar	...	...	...	91.22	73.38	17.84	...	...	...	...	...	13.13	5.15

Abstract of Meteorological Readings in the various districts of Malaya for the month of November, 1919.

District.	Mean Barometrical Pressure at 32° Fah.	Maximum in Sun.	Temperature.				Hygrometer.				Prevailing Direction of Winds.	Total Rainfall.	Greatest Rainfall during 24 hours.
			Mean Dry Bulb.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Vapour Tension.	Dew Point.	Humidity.			
Kelantan, Kota Bahru	...	135.0	79.3	83.63	73.13	14.50	75.5	.807	72.8	80.	...	29.64	7.98
Pahang, Kuala Lipis	...	...	80.67	88.66	70.60	18.06	75.85	...	...	...	...	8.35	1.80
Johore, Johore Bahru	...	...	...	86.33	73.03	13.30	...	...	...	...	...	9.93	1.36
Singapore, Kandang Kerbau ...													
Malacca, Durian Daun ...	29.852	129.	81.0	87.0	73.0	14.0	77.0	.908	...	85.	N.E.	6.55	1.25
Negri Sembilan, Seremban ...	...	151.2	80.1	86.3	71.6	14.7	77.4	.888	74.7	86.2	S.W.	7.75	2.44
,, Kuala Pilah ...	...	148.5	81.7	90.2	...	...	80.1	.980	77.1	90.1	...	7.60	1.57
,, Port Dickson...	...	103.7	80.7	87.5	74.2	13.3	76.8	.861	74.6	81.7	...	14.78	6.18
Selangor, Kuala Lumpur ...	29.779	150.5	80.3	88.6	72.1	16.5	76.1	.817	73.4	79.	Calm.	12.75	3.92
,, Klang	...	...	79.4	83.5	74.1	9.4	76.1	...	...	...	...	8.31	1.45
,, Kuala Selangor ...	...	...	...	87.5	74.3	13.2	...	...	...	...	...	10.11	4.33
,, Rawang	...	...	...	90.3	72.3	18.0	...	...	...	...	...	6.97	1.17
Perak, Telok Anson	...	...	79.92	91.0	71.0	20.0	76.32	.860	...	85.	...	6.12	1.37
,, Ipoh	...	...	79.96	92.0	72.0	20.0	76.27	.857	73.77	85.	...	11.41	1.81
,, Taiping	...	107.0	79.89	91.0	69.0	22.0	73.31	.735	...	72.	...	17.81	2.48
,, The Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31.69	3.89
,, Parit Buntar	...	...	81.42	91.0	72.0	19.0	77.50	.893	...	85.	...	3.34	.43
Penang, Georgetown	29.6	145.1	82.3	89.2	72.6	16.6	77.6	.873	69.1	71.1	N.E.	8.34	2.40
Kedah, Alor Star	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.92	1.75
Perlis, Kangar	...	...	...	90.73	72.30	18.45	...	...	...	...	...	15.07	4.82

Abstract of Meteorological Readings in the various districts of Malaya for the month of December, 1919.

District.	Mean Barometrical Pressure at 32° Fah.	Maximum in Sun.	Temperature.				Hygrometer.				Prevailing Direction of Winds.	Total Rainfall.	Greatest Rainfall during 24 hours.
			Mean Dry Bulb.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Vapour Tension.	Dew Point.	Humidity.			
Kelantan, Kota Bahru	...	...	78.3	84.93	72.80	12.12	74.7	.790	72.2	81.	...	30.24	4.97
Pahang, Kuala Lipis	...	...	77.93	87.00	...	...	75.27	...	...	...	...	9.73	1.72
Johore, Johore Bahru	...	...	...	84.46	72.64	11.82	...	...	...	...	...	9.88	1.94
Singapore, Kandang Kerbau ...	29.821	159.0	80.7	85.3	73.6	11.7	76.3	.856	...	84.	Calm.	7.43	1.24
Malacca, Durian Daun	29.865	125.0	79.0	86.0	73.0	13.0	76.0	.888	...	86.	N.E.	8.70	1.61
Negri Sembilan, Seremban ...	...	150.0	78.3	86.9	71.1	15.8	76.3	.873	73.8	89.2	S.W.	10.74	2.16
,, Kuala Pilah ...	...	149.5	81.7	90.2	...	...	80.0	.882	77.7	90.9	...	12.77	1.53
,, Port Dickson...	...	98.4	79.9	86.7	73.8	12.9	76.5	.841	73.7	80.4	...	4.96	1.37
Selangor, Kuala Lumpur ...	29.814	153.0	79.4	89.0	73.0	16.0	74.6	.825	73.4	82.6	Calm.	6.86	1.71
,, Klang	...	...	78.7	82.6	74.3	8.3	75.7	...	...	...	...	9.03	1.67
,, Kuala Selangor ...	...	...	...	86.5	73.7	12.8	...	...	...	...	...	8.16	1.45
,, Rawang	...	...	...	88.5	71.3	17.2	...	...	...	...	...	7.90	2.07
Perak, Telok Anson	...	...	79.38	90.0	71.0	19.0	76.19	.860	...	87.0	...	19.52	3.38
,, Ipoh	...	...	80.27	91.0	72.0	19.0	75.91	.840	74.33	82.0	...	11.37	2.99
,, Taiping	...	110.0	80.85	93.0	69.0	24.0	77.40	.897	...	87.0	...	15.70	2.59
,, The Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.92	3.50
,, Parit Buntar	...	...	80.70	91.0	70.0	21.0	77.21	.888	...	85.0	...	18.14	2.44
Penang, Georgetown	29.822	146.5	82.09	88.72	71.82	16.90	76.21	.817	69.2	76.6	...	6.06	1.45
Kedah, Alor Star	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.05	2.75
Perlis, Kangar	...	...	...	87.35	71.67	15.68	...	...	...	...	...	4.59	2.33